

# REPORT

ON

## NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

### Week ending the 7th September 1912.

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## PART I OF WEEKLY REPORT.

## LIST OF VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS.

(Corrected up to the 10th August 1912.)

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	<b>BENGAL.</b>				
1	"Bangaratna" ...	Krishnagar ...	Weekly ...	Kanal Lal Das ; Hindu, Karmokar ; age 28 years ...	1,500
2	"Bangavasi" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Bihari Lal Sarkar, Kayastha, age 55 years ; Hari Mohan Mukherji, Brahmin, age 43 years ; Satyendra Kumar Basu.	15,000
3	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura ...	Do. ...	Rama Nath Mukherji, V.L.M.S., Brahmin, age 51 years ; Viswanath Mukherji, B.L., Brahmin, age 40 years.	453
4	"Barisal Hitalshi" ...	Barisal ...	Do. ...	Durga Mohan Sen, Baidya, age 35 years ...	600
5	"Banga Janani" ...	Rangpur (Bhotmari) ...	Do. ...	Sasi Mohan Adhikari, Baidya, age 37 years ...	.....
6	"Basumati" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Sureschandra Samajpati ; Hari Pada Adhikari, age 41 years ; Mani Lal Banerji, age 36 years.	18,000 to 20,000
7	"Birbhum Hitalshi" ...	Bolepur (Birbhum) ...	Do. ...	Dibakar Banerji ; Hindu, Brahmin ; age 43 years ...	350
8	"Birbhum Varta" ...	Suri ( Do. ) ...	Do. ...	Debendra Nath Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 38 years ...	900
9	"Birbhum Vasi" ...	Rampurhat ( Do. ) ...	Do. ...	Nil Ratan Mukherji, B.A., Brahmin, age 44 years ...	350
10	"Biswadut" ...	Howrah ...	Do. ...	Nagendra Nath Pal Chaudhuri ; Hindu, Kayastha ; age 36 years.	1,500
11	"Burdwan Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	Do. ...	Probodhananda Sarkar, B.L., Kayastha, age 31 years ...	500
12	"Chabbis Pargana Vartavaha." ...	Bhowanipore ...	Do. ...	Hem Chandra Nag, Kayastha, age 29 years ...	500 to 700
13	"Charumihir" ...	Mymensingh ...	Do. ...	Baikuntha Nath Sen, B.L., Kayastha, age 43 years ...	1,100
14	"Chinsura Varata-vaha." ...	Chinsura ...	Do. ...	Dinanath Mukherji, Brahmin, age 46 years ...	850
15	"Dainik Chandrika" ...	Calcutta ...	Daily, except on Thursdays.	Hari Das Dutt and Kshetra Nath Sen ...	4,000
16	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	Weekly ...	Satya Bhushan Dutt Roy, Baidya, age 46 years ...	80
17	"Dacca Prakas" ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Mukhunda Behari Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 43 years ...	80
18	"Dhruba Tara" ...	Mymensingh ...	Do. ...	.....	.....
19	"Education Gazette" ...	Chinsura ...	Do. ...	Pandit Nibaran Chandra Bhattacharjee, Brahmin, age 56 years.	1,500
20	"Faridpur Hitalshini" ...	Faridpur ...	Fortnightly ...	Raj Mohan Masumdar, Baidya, age about 73 years ...	.....
21	"Gaud Dut" ...	Malda ...	Weekly ...	Krishna Chandra Agarwalla ...	.....
22	"Hindu Ranjika" ...	Rajshahi ...	Do. ...	Rasimuddin Sarkar, Muhammadan, Printer, age 41 years ...	185
23	"Hindusthan" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Hari Das Dutt ...	1,000
24	"Hitavadi" ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Anukul Chandra Mukherji and Sakharan Ganesh Denshkar	20,000 to 30,000
25	"Hitavarta" ...	Chittagong ...	Do. ...	.....	.....
26	"Islam Rabi" ...	Mymensingh ...	Do. ...	Maulvi Nasimuddin Ahmad, Musalman, age about 35 years	700
27	"Jagaran" ...	Bagerhat ...	Do. ...	.....	About 300
28	"Jasohar" ...	Jessore ...	Do. ...	Ananda Mohan Chaudhuri ; Hindu, Kayastha ...	500
29	"Jyoti" ...	Chittagong ...	Do. ...	Kali Sankar Chakravati, Brahmin, age 47 years ...	1,800 to 2,000
30	"Kalyani" ...	Magura ...	Do. ...	Bisweswar Mukherji, Brahmin, age 48 years ...	500



No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	BENGALI— <i>concl.</i>				
31	"Kasipore Nibasi" ...	Barisal ... ..	Weekly ... ..	Pratap Chandra Mukherji ; Brahmin ; age 68 years ... ..	500
32	"Khulnavasi" ...	Khulna ... ..	Do. ... ..	Gopal Chandra Mukherji ; Hindu, Brahmin, age 51 years	350
33	"Malda Samachar"	Malda ... ..	Do. ... ..	Kali Prassanna Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 42 years ... ..	440
34	"Manbhum" ...	Purulia ... ..	Do. ... ..	Bagala Charan Ghosh ; Hindu, Kayastha ; age 41 years ... ..	About 500
35	"Midnapore Hitaishi"	Midnapore ... ..	Do. ... ..	Manmatha Nath Nag, Kayastha, age 33 years ... ..	500
36	"Medini Bandhab"	Ditto ... ..	Do. ... ..	Deb Das Karan ; Hindu, Sadgop ; age 44 years ... ..	452
37	"Mahamaya" ...	Chinsura ... ..	Do. ... ..	Hem Sasi Som, Kayastha, age 57 years ... ..	150
38	"Moslem Hitaishi" ...	Calcutta ... ..	Do. ... ..	Shaik Abdur Rahim and Mozummul Haque ... ..	4,000 to 5,00
39	"Muhammadi" ...	Ditto ... ..	Do. ... ..	Muhammad Akram Khan, Musalman, age 37 years, and Maulvi Akbar Khan.	,000
40	"Murshidabad Hitaishi."	Saidabad ... ..	Do. ... ..	Banwari Lal Goswami ; Hindu, Brahmin ; age 46 years ... ..	200
41	"Nayak" ...	Calcutta ... ..	Daily ... ..	Birendra Chandra Ghosh and Panchkari Banerjee ... ..	1,500 to 3,000
42	"Navavanga" ...	Chandpur ... ..	Weekly ... ..	Harendra Kisore Ray, Kayastha, age 25 years ... ..	502
43	"Noakhali Sammilani"	Noakhali ... ..	Do. ... ..	Sasi Bhushan Das, Kayastha ... ..	200
44	"Nihar" ...	Contai ... ..	Do. ... ..	Madhu Sudan Jana, Brahmo, age 43 years ... ..	300
45	"Pallivarta" ...	Bongong ... ..	Do. ... ..	Charu Chandra Ray ; Hindu, Kayastha ; age 38 years ... ..	500
46	"Pallivasi" ...	Kalna ... ..	Do. ... ..	Sasi Bhushan Banerji, age 47 years ... ..	300
47	"Pabna Hitaishi"	Pabna ... ..	Do. ... ..	Basant Kumar Vidyavinode, Bhattacharyya, Brahmin, age 36 years.	500
48	"Praja Bandhu" ...	Tippera ... ..	Fortnightly ... ..	Munshi Muhammad Ali Meen, Musalman, age 53 years ... ..	200
49	"Prasun" ...	Katwa ... ..	Weekly ... ..	Purna Chandra Chatterji, Brahmin age 47 years, and Banku Behary Ghose, Goala, age 41 years.	618
50	"Pratihar" ...	Berhampur ... ..	Do. ... ..	Kamakshya Prasad Ganguly, Brahmin, age 64 years ... ..	503
51	"Purulia Darpan" ...	Purulia ... ..	Do. ... ..	Amulya Ratan Chatterji, Brahmin, age 41 years ... ..	About 700
52	"Rajskati" ...	Do. ... ..	Do. ... ..	Bagala Charan Ghosh, Kayastha, age 41 years ... ..	110
53	"Ratnakar" ...	Asansol ... ..	Do. ... ..	Satya Kinkar Banerji, Brahmin, age 26 years ... ..	500
54	"Rangpur Durpan"	Rangpur (Bhotmari)	Do. ... ..	Braja Nath Basak ; Hindu, Tanti ; age 52 years ... ..	200
55	"Rangpur Dikprakash"	Ditto ditto ... ..	Do. ... ..	Hara Sarkar Meitra, Brahmin, age 66 years ... ..	300
56	"Samay" ...	Calcutta ... ..	Do. ... ..	Jnanendra Nath Das, M.A., B.L., Brahmo, age 56 years ... ..	500 to 800
57	"Sanjaya" ...	Faridpur ... ..	Do. ... ..	Rama Nath Ghosh, Kayastha, age about 38 years ... ..	500
58	"Sanjivani" ...	Calcutta ... ..	Do. ... ..	Lalit Mohan Das, late Professor, City College ; Sibnath Sastri, M.A. ; Ramananda Chatterji, M.A., Editor, "Modern Review," etc. ; K. K. Mitter.	11,000
59	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong ... ..	Do. ... ..	Kashi Chandra Das Gupta, Brahmo, age 60 years ... ..	400
60	"Suhrid" ...	Perojpur ... ..	Fortnightly ... ..	Ram Chandra Pal, Kayastha ... ..	200
61	"Subarnabanik" ...	Calcutta ... ..	Weekly ... ..	.....	.....
62	"Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-Ananda Bazar Patrika."	Ditto ... ..	Do. ... ..	Rasik Mohan Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 39 years, an Mrinal Kanti Ghosh.	2,530
63	"Siksha Samachar"	Dacca ... ..	Do. ... ..	Abinas Chandra Gupta, M.A., B.L., Baidya, age 36 year ... ..	.....
64	"The Calcutta Advertiser"	Calcutta ... ..	Do. ... ..	.....	.....
65	"Tippera Guide" ...	Comilla ... ..	Do. ... ..	.....	.....



No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	<b>BENGALI—consolid.</b>				
66	"Tippura Hitalahi"	Tippura ... ..	Weekly ... ..	Kamaniya Kumar Singha, Brahmo, age 23 years ... ..	700
67	"Vartabaha"	Ranaghat ... ..	Do. ... ..	Girija Nath Mukherji; Hindu, Brahmin, age 41 years ... ..	500 to 600
68	"Viswavarta"	Dacca ... ..	Do. ... ..	Abinash Chandra Gupta, M.A., B.L.; Hindu, Baidya, age 36 years.	1,000
	<b>HINDI.</b>				
69	"Bajrang Samachar"	Jamora (Gaya) ... ..	Monthly ... ..	.....	.....
70	"Bharat Mitra"	Calcutta ... ..	Weekly ... ..	Ambika Prasad Bajpayi ... ..	About 4,000
71	"Dainik Bharat Mitra"	Do. ... ..	Daily ... ..	Ambika Prasad Bajpayi, Hindustani, Brahmin, age 45; (2), Panchcowri Banerji, age, 50, Brahmin.	300
72	"Bihar Bandhu"	Patna ... ..	Weekly ... ..	Mahabir Prasad Bania ... ..	400
73	"Biharee"	Bankipore ... ..	Do. ... ..	Akhauri Basudeo Narayan Singh and Purushottam Prasad Sarina.	700
74	"Ghar Bandhu"	Ranchi ... ..	Fortnightly ... ..	Rev. Dr. A. Nottrott ... ..	1,250
75	"Hindi Bangavasi"	Calcutta ... ..	Weekly ... ..	Hari Krishna Joahar, Khetri, age 36 years ... ..	1,500
76	"Hitvarta"	Do. ... ..	Do. ... ..	Babu Rao Paradkar; Mahratia, Brahmin; age 30 years ... ..	3,000 to 4,000
77	"Lakshmi"	Gaya ... ..	Monthly ... ..	Mahadeo Prasad, age 38 years ... ..	200
78	"Marwari"	Calcutta ... ..	Weekly ... ..	B. K. Tebriwalla; Hindu, Agarwalla; age 41 years ... ..	500
79	"Narad"	Chapra ... ..	Daily ... ..	.....	.....
80	"Narad"	Do. ... ..	Weekly ... ..	.....	.....
81	"Siksha"	Bankipore ... ..	Do. ... ..	Pandit Sakal Narayan Pandey Kavyatirtha, Brahmin ... ..	200
82	"Mithila Mihir"	Darbhanga ... ..	Do. ... ..	Pandit Joganand Kumar ... ..	600
83	"Teli Samachar"	Bar ... ..	Monthly ... ..	.....	.....
84	"Tirhut Samachar"	Muzaffarpur ... ..	Weekly ... ..	Sangeetwar Prasad Sarma, Brahmin ... ..	400
	<b>URDU.</b>				
85	"Al Punch"	Bankipore ... ..	Do. ... ..	Syed Ahsan, Muhammadan, age 40 years ... ..	500
86	"Darul Hukumat"	Calcutta ... ..	Weekly and bi-weekly.	Hafiz Bux Ellahi, Muhammadan, age 42 years ... ..	1,000
87	"Durbar Gazette"	Do. ... ..	Daily ... ..	Nawab Ali, Muhammadan ... ..	1,000
88	"Star of India"	Arrah ... ..	Weekly ... ..	Muhammad Zahurul Haque, Muhammadan, age 61 years ... ..	657
	<b>PERSIAN.</b>				
89	"Habul Matin"	Calcutta ... ..	Weekly and daily	Syed Jelaluddin, Shiah Muhammadan, age 61 years ... ..	1,000
	<b>URIYA.</b>				
90	"Garjatbasini"	Talchar State ... ..	Weekly ... ..	Bhagirathi Misra, Brahmin, age 43 years ... ..	In Orissa.
91	"Sambalpur Hital-shini."	Deoghar ... ..	Do. ... ..	Dina Bandhu Gornayak, Chasa, age 37 years ... ..	Do.
92	"Samvad Vaheka"	Balasore ... ..	Do. ... ..	Kasinath Panda, Brahmin, age 37 years ... ..	400
93	"Uriya and Nava-samvad."	Balasore ... ..	Do. ... ..	Ram Tarak Sen; Hindu, Tamli age 50 year ... ..	450
94	"Utkal Varta"	Calcutta ... ..	Do. ... ..	Hrisikesh Pandey Kaviraj ... ..	500
95	"Utkal Dipika"	Cuttack ... ..	Do. ... ..	Gouri Sankar Ray ... ..	1,200

## PART I OF WEEKLY REPORT.

*Additions to, and alterations in, the list of Vernacular Newspapers as it stood on the 10th August 1912.*

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	Chandravanshiya Hitkari.	Rewani Dinapore	... Monthly ...	.....	.....
2	Al Modabbir ...	... Bankipore	... Weekly ...	.....	.....
3	Al-Hilal ...	... Calcutta	... Do. ...	.....	.....

No. 73—"The Biharee" has ceased to exist.



## I—FOREIGN POLITICS.

**THE Nama-i-Muqaddas** *Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 26th August reproduces a translation of the Parliamentary replies of Sir Edward Grey to the following question asked by Mr. Morrell :—

Persia in the English Parliament.

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS  
HABLUL MATIN,  
Aug. 26th, 1912.

Has the Foreign Minister followed the policy enunciated by him on the 4th of December last, when it was said that, Persia having accepted the Anglo-Russian Convention, everything would go on smoothly; sufficient loan would be given to the Persian Government, and the Russian troops would be withdrawn from the North of Persia.

2. Referring to a letter received from Shamran (?) which brings various charges against Wasuq-ud-dowla and Kavam-ul-mulk (sometime) the Minister for Foreign and

A letter from Shamran (?)

Internal Affairs, of accepting the Russian ultimatum, paying no attention to the telegrams sent by the well-wishers of Persia, at the time of the Meshed incident, calling on him to stand firmly against the Russians, his, in conjunction with Kavamus-sultanat, not permitting the sad tidings of the bombardment of the Meshed shrine from reaching the ears of the Persians, their helping the Russians to obtain a firm footing in the north of Persia after the dissolution of the mejliss, permitting the formation of a Cossack regiment under Russian officers of Azirbijan, and of sanctioning the expenditure for the upkeep of 700 Cossacks for Tabrez from the Persian treasury, etc., the *Nama-i-Muqaddas* *Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 26th August says :—

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS  
HABLUL MATIN,  
Aug. 26th, 1912.

The writer of the above letter is a respectable man and known to us. We had already become somewhat suspicious about the actions of Wasuq-ud-dowla, Kavam-us-Sultanat and Motamidus-Sultanat, but the writer of this letter who claims to produce official documents in support of his statements, has thrown light on many things. We therefore request the present Cabinet to make a thorough enquiry and to devise measures to prevent a repetition of such conduct on the part of its officers in future, or to refute the charges, if incorrect, so that the *Hablul Matin*, may also publish the refutation. The paper reserves its opinion till the result of the enquiry, suggested by it, is made known.

3. The *Nama-i-Muqaddas* *Hablul Matin* [Calcutta], publishes an article on the present state of Persia, subscribed by Mr.

The present condition of Persia.

B. W. Stenitan (?) who, referring to Nasir-ul-mulk's going away from Persia, deploras the absence of a competent leader in the country who would replace either Nasir-ul-mulk, the Regent, or Mr. Yafrum Khan. The writer also deploras the want of upright, skilful and honest men in the country. There are few persons who are not only upright and unselfish, but are at the same time ready to sacrifice their lives and wealth for the sake of the people.

NAMA-I-MUQADDAS  
HABLUL MATIN  
Aug. 26th, 1912.

Persians do not believe in other people, while other people also have no confidence in them, but this is their hereditary defect. In the opinion of the writer, ten competent men like Karim Khan Zand and Nadirquli Afshar, can restore order and effect other reforms in the country. The Persians are, as a class, poor and most of them have nothing to do with politics. They would not care whether it was a despotic or a constitutional Government, so long as their life and property was safe.

Persia has not lost her love of independence and liberty. What she wants is a leader who would lay the foundation of self-government and independence in the country. Is such a leader available in Persia? Are there the nine persons who would faithfully follow the tenth, their leader?



NAMA-I-MUQADDAS  
HABUL MATIN,  
Aug. 26th, 1912.

4. The *Nama-i-Muqaddas Habul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 23th August reproduces an article from the *Manchester Guardian* which asks its readers to draw their own conclusions from the views expressed by the *Novoye Vremya*, the official organ of the Russian Government, which may be summed up in the following sentences:—England has, after enjoying a hundred years' peace, now got a rival in Germany. This has made her to increase her Navy in order to maintain her supremacy at sea. She will, no doubt, follow Pitts' policy adopted for the first time in dealing with Napoleon, once more in her present crisis. She will try to keep her enemies involved in trouble with the neighbouring Powers, with whom she would cultivate friendly terms for the time being but give them up no sooner the enemies have been overthrown. Russia may expect some such treatment at the hands of England. The Russians have approved the recent interview between the Kaiser and the Czar, both of whom are to be congratulated.

## II—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

### (a)—Police.

CHARU MIHIR,  
Aug. 27th, 1912.

5. Referring to the Jagatsi case, the *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 27th August says:—

The Jagatsi case.

It transpired in the course of the trial that the police committed great oppression on the inmates of the Asrama, and the public has a right to know the why of it. The evidence shows that the police fired on men, women and children on the very first day. This was most unjustifiable and barbarous. A similar conduct on the part of the police in England, under similar circumstances, would have roused the popular ire to such an extent as to lead to great bloodshed. The statement which Dayananda made on the fourth day of hearing was really pathetic. We earnestly pray the authorities to enquire into the conduct of the police towards Dayananda and his Asrama.

MITHILA MIHIR,  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

6. The *Mithila Mihir* [Darbhanga] of the 31st August refers to the memorial submitted by Babu Manindra Chandra Sing of Karimganj, to the Chief Commissioner of

The Karimganj murder case.

Assam, praying for a thorough enquiry into the alleged murder of a coolie of the Magura Tea Estate in that subdivision, and strongly supports the same.

ISLAM RABI,  
Aug. 9th, 1912.

7. A correspondent of the *Islam Rabi* [Tangail] of the 9th August alleges

A serious complaint against a Munsif.

that, recently, the Munsif of Pingna and some other local gentlemen arrested, belaboured and kept under wrongful confinement three Musalmans, on the pretext of their having made some *golmal* over the purchase of some fish in the local bazar. Subsequently, the daroga of the Sarishabari thana came on investigation, took down depositions and then released the men saying that the matter ended there. It is insinuated that the daroga thus bushed up the case at the request of the Munsif, because there was a damage suit hanging in the Munsif's Court against him. However that may be, every one thought that the matter had really ended. But after one month, one Alimaddin has been arrested on a warrant and sent up to Tangail.

The same paper publishes a contradiction of the above in which the writer, Babu Kalisundar Chakravarti, a pleader of Pingna, says that a Musalman having stolen some fish from a fisherman in the local bazar, he was caught and chastised. At this a large number of Musalmans gathered and belaboured the fisherman so severely that he could save himself only by running into the neighbouring house of a Mukhtar named Jadav Babu. The mob then gathered before the Mukhtar's house and assumed a threatening attitude. At this the Munsif Babu, who had in the meantime appeared at the spot, sent information to the Sarishabari thana. Three of the rioters were arrested, but no oppression was committed on them.



8. The *Star of India* [Arrah] of the 16th and 23rd August writes:—

STAR OF INDIA  
Aug. 16th & 23rd, 1912.

The *Bahr-Id*.

The *Bahr-Id* is now approaching; the Police must have commenced their enquiry about the houses in which cows were slaughtered in the previous year. No sacrifice will, therefore, be allowed in a house in which that animal was not slaughtered before, even if the owner, hitherto ineligible, became qualified to offer a sacrifice this year under the canons of his religion.

The Muhammadans, says the paper, consider it a sin not to offer sacrifice when they ought to do so. Under the circumstances, the paper respectfully asks the Government whether orders will be given to such a man if he happens to live in a quarter of the town where no sacrifice was offered before.

Any order prohibiting the sacrifice remarks the paper, will be interference with religion. The paper, therefore, hopes that His Honour, Sir Charles Bayley would be pleased to consider the question and adopt such precautionary measures as would prevent slaughter of human beings in place of the lower animal in the houses of poor Muhammadans who are religiously bound to offer a sacrifice.

9. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 30th August fails to see why

MOSLEM HITAIISHI,  
Aug. 30th 1912.

The Police and a Musalman book.

the police are after Mozammel Huq, the author of a Bengali book named "*Jatiya Foara*," which does not contain anything objectionable. This gentleman, the paper says, is well-known for his loyalty and has written many loyal poems. There is in the book one poem, named *Samya Giti*, in which the author treats of the ill-feelings which the boycotting of English goods by the Hindus created between Hindus and Musalmans. In that poem Hindus and Musalmans are described as reviling one another as they would naturally do, but the author exhorts the members of both the communities to live in mutual peace and good-will. The *Moslem Hitaishi* knows that this poem did much to restore peace in the author's village during the *swadeshi* disturbances. It would be a great pity if this poem were to be the cause of this book being proscribed, which would entail heavy loss on the author. And if the poem must be held as objectionable, the paper suggests that the authorities should allow the book to be published with that poem expunged.

10. It is rumoured, writes the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 31st August,

NAYAK,  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

A Personal Assistant to the Police Commissioner.

that Sir Frederick Halliday will take a Personal Assistant, and that the Rai Saheb Srikrishna Mahapatra, a Uriya, will be that officer. Is there no Bengali officer fit to hold the post? Why should a Uriya hold it when Orissa has been separated from Bengal? Moreover, if Rai Sahib Mahapatra becomes Personal Assistant to the Police Commissioner, we shall be simply put on a rack of constant petty oppressions.

11. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 30th August has learned that

NAYAK,  
Aug. 30th, 1912.

An allegation regarding a Deputy Superintendent of Police.

Mr. Hughes-Buller, on returning to Bengal from his term of service on the North-West Frontier, brought over a Pathan, to whom he gave an appointment in the police on Rs. 50. Since then, during the year and 11 months, he has risen to be a Deputy Superintendent of Police. He is now at Manikganj, and Mr. Hughes-Buller has recently sent him a letter promising soon to raise him to the rank of Superintendent. This letter has been shown by this worthy Pathan to many people. Will Lord Carmichael ascertain what truth there is in this?

12. Referring to the request preferred by the Dacca People's Association

BASUMATI,  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

Young political suspects.

for discontinuance of police surveillance of political suspects, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 31st August points out that the case of such of those suspects as are young, is specially hard. They are refused admission into schools and cannot secure service. They are, in a way, outcasts. Thus baffled in seeking an honest means of livelihood, they become a menace to social order.

13. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 29th August is glad that, in reply to

SANJIVANI,  
Aug. 29th, 1912.

The Criminal Investigation Department.

a request made to His Excellency by the Dacca People's Association, Lord Carmichael has promised to consider whether suspected political offenders cannot now be relieved of police surveillance, which is very harassing and



troublesome. The times of unrest in Bengal have passed, and peace now reigns in the country. Lord Carmichael has understood that in Bengal there is none who desires evil to the English. Why then maintain the Criminal Investigation Department at a large cost?

DAILY BHARAT  
MITRA,  
Sept. 1st, 1913.

14. In reviewing the resolution of the Punjab Government on the Police administration report of that province for the year 1911-12, the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of

Crimes in the Punjab.

the 1st September notices the remarks of the Lieutenant Governor that the increase in crimes in 1907 was due to disaffection, but the year under review surpasses the record of crimes in that year, and that contempt of law courts and growth of intemperance in some districts mainly contributed to the increase last year. To say that people, who alone suffer on account of these crimes both in person and property, encourage the evil-doers is a proposition the truth of which even a most stupid man cannot admit. To attribute the increase in crimes in 1907 to disaffection, therefore does not seem to be right.

The statement that such a disregard for law has not been shown by any other people in the world is rebutted by a reference to the massacre of Roman Catholics of Belfast in Ireland in 1885 and 1886, not to speak of previous years. The paper also refers to inflammatory speeches of the present leader of the Unionists addressed to the people of Ulster.

Sir Louis Dane has, continues the paper, made two important observations, viz., the impotence of the police and the growth of intemperance in the country. His Honour has declined to accept the plea of over-work advanced by the Inspector-General, and quoted figures to show the increase of expenditure of police in recent years. His suggestion to reduce the number of officers in the higher grades of the service and to increase the number of constables and others, should be acted upon. As for growth of intemperance, the remedy lies with the Government. The principle of maximum of revenue with minimum of consumption is not a sound one, and should be abandoned.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

BASUMATI,  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

15. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 31st August writes thus in regard to the Midnapore judgment:—

"What can be more strange than this?"—The Midnapore case.

Many of the facts connected with the Midnapore case are surprising. Truth to tell, such an assortment of strange things was never before heard of in India, even in a grandmother's tale. All the inhabitants of the chief town of a district from Raja to beggar combine to make bombs and upset the British raj—this story, stranger than one of the Arabian Nights' Tales, was invented, believed, and acted upon by officials. What can be stranger than this? In a case where, though 27 men are kept in *hajat* for more than a month, the police fail to secure the conviction even of a single one of the accused; in a case where, during the final disposal of the original case, more than one High Court Judge described as illegal the manner in which confession by the accused were, recorded; in such a case—in spite of all this—some of the High Court Judges retain a firm belief in the existence of the Bomb Conspiracy—what can be stranger than this? If these are old matters, the surprise they cause has not abated with the lapse of time: the more people think of it, the more are they filled with surprise. And fresh surprises are heaped on the old surprises, surpassing them in intensity. What can be stranger than this? A High Court Judge who is usually blind to all considerations save those of justice; whose duty it is to be civil, and collected, and patient and merciful, who is accustomed to detect mistakes in the judgments of the most intelligent of men, now fails to maintain his gravity and restraint, though he writes out his judgment away from the bustle of a city, in a seaside sanitarium, in view of the solemn ocean; and cannot resist the temptation of recording strong criticisms of a colleague on the Bench, enjoying the public respect. What can be stranger than this?

Again, though on the day on which Mr. Justice Woodroffe began reading out his judgment, he gave no inkling whatever of what his orders were to be, on the same day, the *Pioneer* received a telegram from Calcutta stating what the orders were to be. Two days before the orders were actually read out in



Court, a paper publishes what those orders are to be. What can be stranger than this? The three judges certainly never disclosed them to the paper in question. The *Pioneer's* correspondent must have guessed the nature of the orders by a process of telepathy or thought-reading, and, in implicit reliance on his own powers as a prophet, wired to Simla and to Allahabad what the orders were to be. And his guess appears to have proved true to the hilt. What can be stranger than this?

On Thursday, before reading his judgment, Mr. Justice Woodroffe read out the following from a slip of paper:—

"Before reading my judgment, I am desired by Mr. Justice Coxe to say that he entirely agrees with me both as to the order passed and the grounds therefor. Mr. Justice Chatterjee who, except as to the question of cost, agrees with the order passed, will himself deliver a separate judgment giving his reasons therefor."

As these three judges sat together to hear the appeal it must be presumed that they saw each other's judgment. So everybody who heard Mr. Justice Woodroffe speak thus, thought that Mr. Justice Chatterjee had not agreed with his two colleagues in awarding costs to the appellants. But two days later, when Mr. Justice Chatterjee read out his judgment, it appeared that his Lordship had agreed with his two brother-judges not only on other points but also as regards costs. All three of them granted costs on scale No. 2 to the appellants. What can be stranger than this? What can be more a matter for surprise than that Mr. Justice Chatterji should have held one view regarding the granting of costs till Mr. Justice Woodroffe began reading out his judgment, and that he should have come to hold another view immediately after his colleague had finished reading out his judgment? All these are facts which suggest that the Midnapore affair from start to finish has been full of puzzles.

There is another mystery regarding this case. After two years of protracted litigation, the judges now hold that this suit is barred by limitation. Mr. Justice Woodroffe has decided that Mr. Justice Fletcher should have dismissed this case on this ground as soon as it was instituted before him. All the three judges of the Appellate Bench are agreed on this point. We of course do not understand the intricacies of the law, but the idea occurs to us, why, if the Appellate Judges were so confident that this suit was barred by limitation, they did not allow this appeal simply on this ground. Why did they waste the time of the Court and the money of the Government by raising other points and dwelling on them? They indirectly blame and criticise Mr. Justice Fletcher for having wasted time by not dismissing the suit promptly on the ground of limitation, and yet they themselves are guilty of the same fault—what can be stranger than this?

As regards Peary Das's arrest Mr. Weston said: "I arrested Peary because he is the owner of the house where the bomb was found." Why then was not he arrested immediately after the bomb was discovered?

And if he was arrested after some delay, why was he arrested before a careful examination had been made of the evidence against him? And why, before such an examination of the evidence against him had been made, was he put in solitary confinement for a month and a week? Admitting for the sake of argument that Mr. Weston had the right to keep Peary Das in confinement, why was not Umesh Dutt, the proprietor of the premises of Sarada and Barada Dutt also arrested, since in those premises also a bomb was discovered? Of two men guilty of the same offence, one man is arrested and treated hardly, while the other is let off scot-free. Mr. Weston feels it necessary to use his authority over Santosh Das's old father before the former makes his confession; nor does he care to examine whether there is sufficient evidence against him, but on the other hand he does not think it necessary to arrest another man guilty of the same offence as old Peary. What can be stranger than this? Even Mr. Justice Woodroffe has admitted that Peary was treated with rigour, but he has not clearly accounted for this exercise of rigour. His Lordship has also held that Mr. Weston acted improperly in interviewing Peary after the bomb had been discovered in his house. But he has not given any satisfactory reason why Mr. Weston should have done such an unnecessary and improper thing. What can be stranger than this?



Mr. Justice Chatterji agrees with Mr. Justice Fletcher in holding that the story of the Bomb Conspiracy was false. He holds that Santosh and Suren made false confessions, that the police threatened and tempted them into confessing; that the police altered some of the documents for making out a consistent case, and yet he has decreed in favour of the applicants granting costs. What can be stranger than this?

**BASUMATI,**  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

16. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 31st August in discussing the Midnapore judgment, remarks that the decision of the Appellate Bench is not commending itself to the

The Midnapore judgment.

public as satisfactory. Mr. Justice Woodroffe lays too much stress on the fact that the defendants in this case are men of high position. Well, a case should be decided on the merits of the evidence adduced, in utter disregard of the position of the accused. Then, again, his lordship has said a good deal about the disturbed political situation in the country at the time when the incidents of the case occurred. We do not know if all this has been proved by evidence before the Court. And further, what had Peary to do with the political situation of the time? It has not been alleged by anybody that he fomented the unrest in any way.

There is yet another passage in his lordships judgment, "The position of the police became a difficult one. Not only had they no longer their informer but the same influence, which had produced that result, was at work to see that they got no evidence. Steps were taken to terrorize or boycott any person who gave evidence for the Crown. Why should that have been done except to prevent any one from giving evidence against the accused in the Bomb Conspiracy case? Under these circumstances of difficulty, the Crown had to withdraw the case against all the accused except three," which is equally unsubstantiated by evidence placed before the Court. Certainly no such statement was made by Mr. Sinha when he withdrew the charges. On the contrary, he distinctly said that Rakhal Laha's evidence had been the groundwork of the case, and as that was no longer found reliable, the case must go. This view of a public conspiracy to prevent the collection of evidence for the Crown, is not believed in by Mr. Justice Chatterji, and is not referred to by the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Mukherji.

The same evidence from which Mr. Justice Woodroffe and Mr. Justice Coxe conclude that the story of the Bomb was true, leads Mr. Justice Chatterji to agree with Mr. Justice Fletcher in "thinking that the whole of the story about the genesis and the peregrinations of the bomb is a pure invention and entirely false."

There is, further, the fact that according to Mr. Justice Chatterji Peary's arrest had the effect of forcing Santosh and Suren to confess. Two questions in connexion with this case have not been so far answered by Mr. Justice Woodroffe, viz. (1) why was not Peary arrested immediately after the bomb had been found in his house and (2) why did Mr. Weston grant interviews to Peary at this time, and permit him to visit his son in jail? It is true that Mr. Justice Woodroffe has held that Mr. Weston was wrong in seeing Peary after the bomb had been found in his house; but it did not apparently occur to his lordship as to why Mr. Weston did this improper thing?

In conclusion, the public ought to be deeply grateful to Mr. K. B. Dutt for his unselfish services in regard to this case. The decision of the Bar Council that he should have been witness and not Counsel in the case, does not commend itself to us.

**BANGAVASI**  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

17. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 31st August says:—

*Ibid.*

Like Abu Hossain of the Arabian Nights who, on awakening from sleep one morning, found himself raised to the Khalifate of Baghdad, Mr. Justice Woodroffe, has, on delivering his judgment in the Midnapore case, found that he has suddenly become the highest object of adoration to the Anglo-Indian community. His lordship has been on the bench of the High Court for many years, but it is only now, after the delivery of his judgment in the Midnapore case, that the Anglo-Indian press has discovered high and sterling qualities in him. He is now, according to the Anglo-Indians, a most learned, intelligent and impartial judge and the upholder of the glory of the High Court. And Mr. Justice Fletcher? Fie! fie! He is worthless, lazy, ignorant of law and what not?



Already the *Englishman*, the *Statesman* and the *Pioneer* have had their say against him. Now the *Civil and Military Gazette* has come forward with the demand that he should be removed from the bench and the High Court reformed. It is as if these Anglo-Indians held the guiding strings of the fate of Mr. Justice Fletcher and the High Court in their hands. Mr. Justice Fletcher and Mr. Justice Woodroffe held contrary views about the Midnapore case, and believed and disbelieved different sets of witnesses. This was why they arrived at different conclusions. It does not follow from this that Mr. Justice Fletcher committed a great crime by finding against the defendants. In deciding the case against the defendants he was guided by his judgment and good sense, and not by any bias or personal grudge. In railing against him, the Anglo-Indian press has simply showed its meanness and stupidity. As regards the charge of delay brought against the High Court in connection with the Clarke case, we have already shown that it was not the High Court but Mr. Clarke or the Bengal Government and the Privy Council who were responsible for the delay complained of. The *Civil and Military Gazette* has made the wonderful suggestion that Mr. Clarke, Khan Bahadur Mazharul Huq and Rai Bahadur Lal Mohan Guna should be compensated for all that they have suffered. Whence will the money for paying compensation come? Why? From the Midnapore people by imposing a punitive tax on them. Alas! *Civil and Military Gazette*, where was this milk of kindness and sympathy in you for the suffering and the oppressed when hundreds of people were arrested in connection with the *swadeshi* movement, made to rot in *hajat* for months together and then found innocent by law-courts? Why, you did not at that time think it necessary to compensate them by imposing a punitive tax on the police.

18. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th August thus continues its criticisms on the Midnapore judgement:—

The Midnapore judgment.

Mr. Justice Woodroffe has not abused the plaintiff Peary Mohan very much, he has reserved his attacks mostly for his Counsel, Mr. K. B. Dutt, and Mr. Justice Fletcher. His lordship has said that the plaintiff could not have instituted this suit at all, were there not men behind to back him up. This lawsuit, he holds, has originated in a regular conspiracy, the object of which was to traduce the good name of Mr. Weston and certain other high public servants. His lordship is of opinion that, as a matter of fact, Mr. Weston and the police officers acted in good faith so as to preserve the peace of the town. We should not have been surprised if we had heard these statements from the lips of Counsel for the defence, but we are amazed to hear them emanating from the lips of an eminent judge of the High Court.

A little consideration will show on which side there was a conspiracy. Police spies reported against those Midnapore citizens who were eminent for learning, wealth and position, as all implicated in a bomb conspiracy. Against some of them no prosecution was instituted; of those who were actually prosecuted, most had the complaints against them withdrawn by the police. And lastly, those whose prosecution was persisted in, were ultimately let off by the High Court. The police spent money freely in collecting evidence against these accused. Mr. Weston betrayed such an excessive zeal in the case that he did not shrink from reporting to Government against a High Court Judge who had granted an order for bail to the accused. According to Mr. Justice Woodroffe, Peary Mohan's arrest was due to a bomb having been found in his house. The Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Mukherji did not believe this; they distinctly stated that old Peary Mohan was arrested simply to induce Santosh and Surendra to confess. Mr. Weston himself has admitted that it was by his order that Peary Mohan was arrested. In reply to the question as to why he directed his arrest, Mr. Weston stated that it was because a bomb had been found in Peary's house that he had ordered his arrest. But he could not give any satisfactory reply to the query as to why Peary was not arrested on the very day on which the bomb was found.

After the bomb had been found in Peary's house, Mr. Weston saw Peary a number of times; and every time he asked him to try and make his son confess. When, however, Mr. Weston found that Santosh would not confess, Peary was suddenly arrested one day in Court in the presence of Santosh and

HITAVADI  
Aug. 30th, 1912



thrown into *hajat*. After this, Santosh made his confession. Mr. Weston at first could say nothing as to why the arrest was effected in this manner. Ultimately, he said that Peary had not been arrested previously, because it had not been ascertained whether or not the bomb was a dangerous one. But will even a child credit this story—that men who threw lots of the most respectable men into *hajat* on the report of a spy, would, after finding a bomb in Peary's house wait to effect his arrest till the bomb found in his house had been examined? Another point is this: admitting that there was a bomb in Peary's house, that Peary was owner of the house, so that Peary's arrest was effected in accordance with the law, can any one explain why, when a bomb was found in the house occupied by Sarala and Barada Dutt, Umes Dutt, the proprietor of that house, was not arrested? These are considerations which make people refuse to believe that Mr. Weston acted in good faith from a sense of duty. The Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Mukherji, and Mr. Justice Fletcher also, did not accept his conduct as the outcome of good faith. Mr. Justice Chatterjee also has agreed with the Chief Justice in this view. Will the opinion of Mr. Justice Woodroffe and Mr. Justice Coxe now make people think that all these colleagues of theirs were in the wrong?

And can there be any doubt that Peary Mohan's own idea as to the *bond fides* of his arrest will be the same as that of the public? He instituted this suit to obtain redress for the wrong done to him and to prevent such wrong being done again in the future. But Mr. Justice Woodroffe has got the idea that this case has been instituted at the instigation of other people by the plaintiff, simply to blacken the reputation of the Magistrate and the police officers. The records of the High Court bear ample evidence as to the way in which Magistrates and the Police can harass an individual citizen in the mufassil, if he happens to incur their ill-will. In the present case, everybody knows what oppression Peary Mohan was subjected to because of the malice of the Police officers and the Magistrate. So what is there blameworthy if, in this case, Peary Mohan should have secured the sympathy of the public? Public sympathy is naturally drawn to a man, who, though innocent, is a victim of oppression. For this reason, Peary Mohan had the sympathy not only of the Midnapore public, but of all Bengalis, irrespective of age and sex. According to Mr. Justice Woodroffe's theory, we are to hold that the entire population of Bengal came to be filled with an animus against Mr. Weston, the Maulvi and Lal Mohan.

Mr. K. B. Dutt is a native of Midnapore, was Municipal Chairman of the town and the leading citizen of that place at the time the incidents forming the subject matter of the suit, occurred. He is acquainted with all the incidents in this case, that is why he felt anguished at the sight of the unjustifiable harassment of old and innocent Peary Mohan. He, therefore, casting aside all thoughts of self, assisted Peary Mohan in seeking redress from the highest court of justice in the land. For this offence, Mr. Justice Woodroffe calls his conduct reprehensible. But the public at large will not take that view; and Mr. Justice Fletcher also did not see his conduct in that light. So Mr. K. B. Dutt has no reason to be ashamed of himself. In seeking to help a man in trouble, he has incurred the censure of the judge. But in the public estimation he will hold a high place of honour. Mr. Justice Woodroffe has said that the plaintiff originally stated that the bomb had been placed in his house with the knowledge of all the three defendants; ultimately it was stated on his behalf that Mr. Weston and Inspector Lal Mohan knew nothing as to who placed the bomb. This, in his lordship's opinion, proves the complaint unfounded. We believe Mr. Justice Woodroffe has fallen into a serious error here. For, from the outset, it was said that the Maulvi placed the bomb in Peary Mohan's house with the assistance of Banamali. Mr. Weston and Lal Mohan might not be aware of the means by which it was placed. But they knew Peary to have been innocent, and still did not try to unravel the mystery. The fact was thus stated before both the Chief Justice and the Lieutenant-Governor. How then can it be said that the plaintiff has altered the nature of his charge under the stress of circumstances? Mr. Justice Woodroffe has said that the police found the utmost difficulty in collecting evidence, because of the opposition of the public. Those who know the condition of things in the mufassal, will hold just the opposite view. If Mr. Justice Woodroffe cannot



understand it, the public can well understand how very difficult it is to collect evidence against the police and the District Magistrate. In fact, in this matter, it is the plaintiff who had more trouble than the defendants. It is therefore a matter of no small regret that, in spite of this fact, the plaintiff has been reproved by the judges.

Mr. Justice Woodroffe has accused Mr. Justice Fletcher of one-sidedness. But Mr. Justice Woodroffe forgets that he had not the opportunity of seeing the demeanour of the witnesses which Mr. Justice Fletcher had. If, after seeing their demeanour, Mr. Justice Fletcher has held one or two witnesses, such as Asadulla, to be untrustworthy, should Mr. Justice Woodroffe still hold him to have been guilty of partiality? But has it been proper for Mr. Justice Woodroffe to call the witnesses for the plaintiff unreliable? It should be pointed out in the present case that Mr. Justice Chatterji has not agreed with Mr. Woodroffe in this respect.

There is one surprising thing in this case. Those who are abusing Mr. Justice Fletcher for having brought a British Magistrate's reputation to nought, forget that they are trying to ruin the reputation of a British Judge. And is the prestige of a Magistrate higher than that of a judge? Anyway Mr. Justice Fletcher's reputation will not suffer at all by any manner of remarks that Mr. Justice Woodroffe, the *Englishman* or the *Statesman* may choose to make in regard to him. This abuse will only strengthen the public respect and confidence in him. The people are captivated by the way in which he deals out impartial justice. People will not believe that all Magistrates are gods. They cannot ignore the truth, simply at the bidding of High Court Judges or Judges of a higher Court still. They will all unanimously shower praise on Mr. Justice Fletcher.

19. Mr. Justice Woodroffe's judgment, writes the *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th August, has brought despair in the minds of our Hindu brethren, for, they say, the

The Midnapore judgment.

judgment shows that there is no redress against a Magistrate's oppressions. Although we do not agree with this view, we think it our duty to sympathise with our defeated countrymen.

We believe that, had not the Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Mukerji found fault with the conduct of Mr. Weston and others before, the damage suit against them would never have been instituted. The results of the Mymensingh and Midnapore damage suits have, in fact, confirmed the wrong idea in men's minds that if a Magistrate commits oppressions it is useless to seek redress against him in a law-court. The degree of mirth which these results have produced in the minds of our Anglo-Indian contemporaries is quite unnatural. Three different benches in the High Court have given three different decisions in the Midnapore case. We know the judges of the Court to be but men, and we know also that to err is human. Moreover, there are differences of opinion among jurists as regards the true interpretations of difficult and obscure sections and clauses of the law. We, however, are firmly of the conviction that whatever order a judge of the High Court passes he passes with careful consideration and in a most impartial spirit, to the best of his knowledge and ability. Considering all this, we did not think it proper to attack Mr. Weston and others, when Mr. Justice Fletcher decided against them, nor do we now think it right to jump to the conclusion that they are perfectly guiltless, or that Mr. Justice Fletcher ought to be removed from the bench, or that Mr. K. B. Dutt should be censured because the Appellate Court has reversed Mr. Justice Fletcher's judgment. We do, however, sincerely regret that, in criticising Mr. Justice Fletcher's findings, Mr. Justice Woodroffe has used extremely harsh language. His lordship ought to have remembered that many of his judgments also have, on previous occasions, been reversed by Appellate Courts, and who knows that his judgment in the Midnapore case also will not, if an appeal is made against it, be reversed by the Privy Council?

20. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 27th August says that, in spite of the judgment of the Appellate Court, the public conviction is that Mr. Justice Fletcher's finding

*Ibid.*

was correct. Moreover, the intemperate language of Mr. Justice Woodroffe's judgment is hardly calculated to inspire people with respect for it. As a

MUHAMMADI,  
Aug. 30th, 1912.

CHARU MIHIR  
Aug. 27th, 1912.



matter of fact, it is not so much the reversal of Mr. Justice Fletcher's judgment as the personal reflections against his lordship, for whom the people of the country entertain the highest respect, which have greatly dissatisfied them. As for Mr. K. B. Dutt, who has earned the respect of the public by his disinterested devotion to the cause of public good, Mr. Justice Woodroffe's strictures against him will do him little harm. However, the Midnapore and Mymensingh cases have led the public to think that Civilians and Police Officers are celestial beings.

DAILY BHARAT  
MITRA,  
Aug. 27th, 1912.

21. In continuing its criticism of the judgment in the Midnapore appeal case, the *Daily Bhabrat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 27th August says that Mr. Justice Woodroffe did not

The Midnapore judgment.

shake off his bias in either hearing or writing his judgment. Hence he has kicked every one right and left. He has shown particular resentment on the lengthy period of the hearing in the lower court, and the fact that the plaintiff's case was not Pyari's case alone. Justice Woodroffe would have, if he was so inclined, found the answer to the first point in the history of the case, which shows the time taken by the Magistrate in committing it. Besides, the period of 188 days taken in the original hearing is not much when its appeal took 48 days. As for the other points, what reason has Mr. Justice Woodroffe to be displeased to see the Midnapore people assisting Pyari if they considered him innocent, when Government itself was assisting the accused. Mr. Justice Woodroffe has said in one place in his judgment that Santosh took the bomb to his house, but three learned and abler judges than Mr. Justice Woodroffe have declared that Santosh did not do it.

DAILY BHARAT  
MITRA,  
Aug. 30th, 1912.

22. Continuing its comment on Mr. Justice Woodroffe's judgment in the Midnapore damage suit the *Daily Bhabrat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 30th August remarks that his

*Ibid.*

condemnation of Mr. Dutt's line of action and indirect attack on his integrity, calling him the root-cause of the whole affair, only reveals his lordship's hostile attitude. Since Mr. Justice Fletcher had declared him free from these charges and had, on the contrary, blamed the Counsels on the other side, Messrs. Norton and Gregory, who denied in Mr. Justice Fletcher's court to have made certain statements which they did make before the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Carnduff or Mr. Justice Mukherjee.

Justice Woodroffe is not right in saying that Mr. Justice Fletcher believed every statement made by the complainant or his witnesses, while he found the defendants to be liars. So far as the paper is aware Justice Fletcher has not done so, though he has disbelieved the depositions of the Maulvi and Abdur Rahman. Any one who has read Mr. Justice Fletcher's judgment will—if his mind is not prejudiced—say that if the defendants have suffered in any way the learned judge has compensated them with compound interest.

It may be, says the journal, that judgment has been delivered by the Appellate Court of Messrs. Justices Woodroffe, Coxe and Chatterjee in the Midnapore case, as the *Capital* says, in the light of the Privy Council Judgment in the Mymensingh case, since the two cases are very much alike. But Mr. Justice Woodroffe's solicitude for the defendants is too much, and his lordship is very sorry that the case has cost them heavy expenditure and serious trouble and worry, though in fact it is not so, for the whole cost of the case has been paid by the Government; while the defendants, who were paid all these days their salaries without any official work to do, rambled as gentlemen at large.

The paper concludes from Mr. Justice Woodroffe's judgment that he did not read the judgment of Mr. Justice Fletcher carefully, and finds differences between the judgment of Mr. Justice Woodroffe on one hand and that of the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Mukherjee on the other.

The principal issues in the case according to the journal are (1) where did the bomb, found in the house of Pyari Mohan, come from (2) why was Pyari arrested and (3) was Santosh's confession due to police pressure? and six Judges have duly considered these issues. The Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Mukherjee had to consider them when they heard the appeal preferred by Santosh, Mr. Justice Fletcher in the original hearing of the Damage suit and Messrs. Justices Woodroffe, Carnduff and Chatterjee in its appeal. Mr. Justice Chatterjee's views do not support the findings of Mr. Justice Woodroffe, and



therefore, leaving Mr. Justice Coxe who simply said ditto to Mr. Justice Woodroffe, all the remaining four judges have pronounced against the judgment of Mr. Justice Woodroffe.

The paper then discusses the above three points one by one, and on the first point cannot accept the finding of Mr. Justice Woodroffe which is opposed to the opinion held by three able Judges—the Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Mukerjee and Mr. Justice Fletcher.

Quoting passages from the judgments of Chief Justice and Messrs. Justices Fletcher and Chatterjee, in which they have little doubt that Pyari was arrested to bring pressure on his son to make confession, the paper finds the view held by Mr. Justice Woodroffe on the second point also against the opinion of the other Judges. No thoughtful man will, therefore, it says, agree with Mr. Justice Woodroffe, who, moreover does not consider in his judgment why Pyari was not arrested at the same time with Santosh, and why permission was not taken of the Government which is necessary for an arrest under the Explosives Act.

On the same ground as above i.e., giving greater weight to the views of four Judges against one, the journal is unable to accept the finding of Mr. Justice Woodroffe on the third point as well, since here also Mr. Justice Chatterjee has differed from him and has expressed views similar to those held by the Chief Justice and Mr. Mukerjee, as well as Mr. Justice Fletcher.

23. The *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 31st August writes:—

The Midnapore judgment.

Having proved, in our previous issues, that Mr. Justice Woodroffe's findings run counter to the conclusions arrived at by four other Judges of the High Court, we would finish our criticism with a few further remarks. By the peculiarities of the English law false cases are sometimes proved to be true and true cases false, a certain amount of concoction therefore becomes necessary. Hence we cannot agree with Mr. Justice Woodroffe in thinking that all the statements made by the defendant and their witnesses were correct. The same thing may be said of Pyari and his witnesses also.

It appears from the circumlocutions here and there in the judgment, that Mr. Justice Woodroffe has made mistakes about the facts. He is wrong when he makes remarks about the difficulties of the police in obtaining evidence which ultimately compelled them to withdraw the case against all but the three accused. Mr. Justice Woodroffe has not a word to say against the Nadirshahi (tyranny) of the police in Midnapore at the time. On the other hand, he has said a good deal in their favour. His support, however, has failed to prove the innocence of the police. Both Abdur Rahman and Rakhal were creatures of the police and they conformed the information to their wishes, for being in the employ of the police they wanted to please their masters. The Midnapore public was sick unto death, but Mr. Justice Woodroffe has not a word to say about it. The inability of the police to procure evidence, which obliged them to withdraw cases against most of the accused, is a serious reflection on the capacity of the Government to rule such a vast country. Besides, an admission of the correctness of Mr. Justice Woodroffe's findings means an admission of such defects in the British administration which make such men lay the axe at its root as are vitally interested in its maintenance. In conclusion, we have to say that people are not satisfied with Mr. Justice Woodroffe's judgment, and consider an independent enquiry into this supposed conspiracy highly beneficial. The judgment is supposed to be in favour of the Government, but in reality it means a serious charge against it.

24. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 29th August characterises Mr. Justice Chatterji's judgment in the

Mr. Justice Chatterji's judgment in the Midnapore case.

Midnapore case, as inconsequential and illegal.

The paper in effect reproduces a recent article of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* on the subject.

25. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd September asks:—

The *Times* on the Clarke case.

Does the Government of India or the British Government approve of the strictures of the *Times* on the Indian Judge's, Pleaders and Barristers of the High Court, in its comment on the recent decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council?

DAILY BHARAT  
MITRA.  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
Aug. 29th, 1912.

HINDI BANGAVASI,  
Sept. 2nd, 1912.



HITAVADI,  
Aug. 30th, 1912.

26. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th August points out that there have been lately two shooting cases, one at Hooghly and the other at Khulna. In the Hooghly case, the accused got 10 years' transportation for shooting a pleader; and in the Khulna case, the accused have been awarded imprisonment for periods varying from two to one and a half year. In both cases there were gun-shot wounds but no death. Why then this difference in the punishment? It is a mystery which the Sessions Judge of Hooghly ought to explain.

DAILY BHARAT  
MITRA,  
Sept. 3rd, 1912.

27. In reviewing the facts of the case forming the subject of a memorial by the mother of Nanki to the Lieutenant-Governor of Punjab, praying for an order to prefer an appeal against the judgment of Mr. Ross, the Sessions Judge, the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 3rd September criticises the judgment acquitting the accused of the charge of outraging the memorialist's daughter, and observes that there has been failure of justice in the case, and that the Punjab Government should therefore prefer an appeal, because the curious line of argument adopted by the Judge in favour of the accused could not convince anybody as to its soundness.

SUVARNAVANI,  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

28. The *Suvarnavani* [Calcutta] of the 31st August complains of the frequent adjournments of cases in the Sealdah Police Court, and of the hardship entailed on litigants thereby. To give concrete examples. One Daridulla, accused of selling cocaine without a license, had his case postponed twice, because a customs officer who was a witness could not turn up on either day. And yet the Vakil and Counsel engaged to appear on those days had to be paid. To give another example: A case against six Kabulis of Cossipore for rioting which began on the 17th February last, is still dragging on. A third case is that of Syed Ahmed, whose case began on the 15th February and was decided on the 6th August. Many more examples of this nature may be adduced. There has been a too frequent change of Magistrates at this Court during the past few years, and the recent appointment of a second Magistrate to clear off accumulated arrears has resulted in depriving Honorary Magistrates of one of the three rooms they used to occupy. Thus, there will now be fewer Honorary Magistrates whose services can be utilised.

SAMAY,  
Aug. 30th, 1912.

29. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 30th August also says that the public has been complaining of too many postponements of cases in the Sealdah Police Court. The attention of the Government is drawn to the matter.

NAVAVANGA,  
Aug. 16th, 1912.

30. The *Navavanga* [Chandpur] of the 16th August complains that Babu Nagendra Chandra Chaudhuri, an officiating Musif of Chandpur, has been striking off large numbers of cases most unjustly, and on the slightest pretexts, and thus causing immense harm and inconvenience to parties.

#### (c) Jails.

HINDI BANGAVASI,  
Sept. 2nd, 1912.

31. Seeing that his writings has had some effect, because the Punjab Government proposes to make arrangements for the instruction of the present inmates of the Lahore Borstal Central Jail in their respective religions, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd September says it has hardly words to express its gratitude adequately to Lord Hardinge.

#### (d)—Education.

NAYAK,  
Aug. 28th, 1912.

32. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 28th August says:—  
English education has taught the Indians to value their rights and agitate for them. They are, therefore, showing an increasing unwillingness to acquiesce meekly in everything done by the officialdom. Again, the non-official



Anglo-Indian community with the Anglo-Indian Press as their organ, have forgot their Imperial duty and responsibility, and are quarrelling with the Indians for petty selfish ends. Thus, drawn into a quarrel, the Indians often retaliate with too much force and acrimoniousness, with the result that they fall into trouble from which the other and more offending party escape by virtue of their colour. In spite of this, we must speak out the truth, though as guardedly as possible.

Lord Ripon's Education Commission decided that the education of the Indians should be controlled by the Indians themselves. Lord Curzon reversed this policy, and brought all higher education in India under complete official control. Under Lord Minto the Education Department was placed under the control of the police. But Lord Hardinge has abandoned this policy, though still holding the reins of control over education in his hands. When, however, we saw that His Excellency did not oppose the Hindu and Musalman University schemes, we supposed that he was going to return to Lord Ripon's education policy. This raised high hopes in our minds. The present system of education, divorced as it is from religion, is eating into the vitals of Hindu and Musalman societies, and making our youths sceptical, luxurious, incapable of doing any serious work and unserviceable to society. It was to remove this undesirable state of things that the Hindu and Musalman University schemes were launched. But now the authorities have become determined to limit the jurisdictions of the two Universities to the towns in which they will be established. This limitation will greatly neutralise the usefulness of the Universities. But how can we help it? To quarrel with the Government means waste of our money and strength. We know the motive of the Government in making the limitation, and can also state our reasons against such a motive. But what is the use of doing that? No one will pay any heed to our words. We presume that Government is not of our way of thinking. We are, therefore, constrained to say that we shall act wisely by beginning the work with what we are getting. If all well-to-do Hindus and Musalmans send their boys to those Universities, they will grow into powerful institutions within a few years, and then Government will have to reverse its policy. In India, the people can have everything in their own way, but their efforts must be united and conducted with a singleness of purpose. If after such a long training under the English, you have not learnt how to work with singleness of purpose, or do not know how a nation's desire has to be manifested, you had better keep quiet. Otherwise, begin work with what you have got, and gradually as your institutions gather strength, everything will come out according to your desire. Work, and with the force of work the universe will come within your control. The time for quarrel is past and the time for work has come.

33. The *Faridpur Hitaishini* [Faridpur] of the 20th August has the

The Hindu and Muhammadan following:—  
Universities.

It is needless to say that the decision of the Secretary of State for India regarding the scope of the two proposed Universities will cause dissatisfaction among Hindus and Muhammadans alike. The educated section of the Musalman community are very confident that the Government take a keen interest in Muhammadan education, and that it is their (the Government's) anxiety for the advancement of Musalman education which is the reason for the establishment of a University at Dacca. The restriction of the scope of the Musalman University, however, looks rather suspicious, not only to Musalmans but to us Hindus as well. The spread of Muhammadan education is due, we should think, more to the endowments left by Hajji Muhammad Mohsin, than to anything else, and we would ask all thoughtful Musalmans to make a note of that fact.

34. The *Almudabbir* [Bankipore] of the 26th August, contains a translation of the Hon'ble Sir H. Butler's letter to the Raja of Mahmudabad, and in way of comment

Moslem University.

on the same it compares Lord Crewe to a miser who makes promises under the impulse of the moment, but is most reluctant to keep them at the right moment, pleading some excuse or other. The Government, says the paper, has, by one stroke of the pen, put an end to all the aspirations and ambitions of the Indian Muhammadans, as Lord Crewe wants to limit the scope of the

FARIDPUR  
HITAISHINI,  
Aug. 20th, 1912.

ALMUDABBIR  
Aug. 26th, 1912.



Moslem University, but does not like to tell the Indians frankly that he had made a promise without due deliberation and thus committed a mistake from a statesman's point of view.

His Lordship has thus been weighed and found wanting in those qualities which become a statesman. The paper denies any force in the objections raised by His Lordship to the scheme.

The competition, if any, between the proposed University and those existing will be a healthy one, and tend to promote the cause of education. No schools or colleges could be made eligible for affiliation unless they conformed strictly to the standard of the parent institution. As regards supervision it might be argued that Lord Crewe should, on the same analogy, come and have his office at Delhi if he wishes to supervise the work of the Government of India.

STAR OF INDIA,  
Aug. 16th and  
23rd, 1912.

35. The *Star of India* [Arrah] of the 16th and 23rd August regrets that His Highness Sir Agha Khan did not consider the anxieties and difficulties of the Muhammadans of

Moslem University.

India before consulting the Government on the University question and began to collect money. His silence, says the paper, proves that the decision of the Secretary of State has been final and it is useless to send the proposed deputation to Simla to obtain a reconsideration of the question.

The paper had its doubts about the grant of a Charter at the very time when it was held necessary that the Viceroy should be the Chancellor of the University, with extensive powers. Was it possible for the Viceroy to find time to look after the affairs of the University, and is there a single man among the Muhammadans fit for that post? Besides, Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, having brought forward his proposal of the Hindu University, had distracted the mind of the Government. His object, no doubt, was to stand in the way of the Moslem University being established. Now they say that both the communities should make a combined effort; but the paper considers it to be trick, and repeats what it has always said that union between the Muhammadans and the Hindus is altogether impossible, and therefore it can never be expected that the Muhammadans will prosper if they do anything in unity with the Hindus.

The paper remarks that the benefits of a residential University at Aligarh cannot reach the Muhammadans all over India, and therefore does not approve of the idea of spending lakhs of rupees simply for selecting and distributing question papers within the Aligarh College buildings.

The paper proposes that, after returning the money paid by the Hindus, the amount left in the fund should be spent on Industrial schools. If the Muhammadans want, progress they should unite together and not use anything touched by the Hindus, as they themselves do with what is touched by us. They should develop Commerce and Industry. The object of the Moslem university was to make all the Muhammadans, graduates so as to enable them to enjoy the good things of the world.

STAR OF INDIA,  
Aug. 16th & 23rd, 1912.

36. Pointing out the disappointment, specially of the poor and middle class Muhammadans, at the decision of the

How to spend the Moslem University fund.

Government about the Moslem University, a correspondent of the *Star of India* [Arrah] in its issue of the 16th and 23rd August, does not approve of the idea of accepting the decision of the Government in the matter, and agitating for its modification in future the decision having been declared as final. To have a University under such conditions is not at all desirable.

The writer, inviting the attention of the Moslem University Committee, proposes that the fund collected may be utilized in establishing Industrial schools, etc., in localities from which money has been collected.

HINDI BANGAVASI,  
Sept 2nd, 1912.

37. In face of the activity shown by the Muhammadans in protesting against the decision of the Secretary of State about the Musalman and Hindu Universities, some of

Hindu University.

them even withdrawing their subscriptions, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd September is surprised at the silence of the Hindus in the matter, and asks if the silence is meant to be consent.

The papers says that, even if the promoter of the scheme accepted the decision, it is questionable if the subscribers would do the same.



38. The order of the Secretary of State, in regard to the Hindu and Moslem Universities, has, says the *Shiksha* [Arrah] Hindu University.

SHIKSHA,  
Aug. 26th, 1912.

of the 26th August, converted the high hopes of the two communities into blank despair, and thrown cold water on their zeal. The Secretary of State has ordered the designation of the new University to be Benares University, but the Committee which would meet to consider the order should see its way to retain the word Hindu too. The Hindus need exert no pressure on the Government [of India in the matter of affiliation of outside colleges, as it would be an indication of their loyalty, but they should ask for an order to affiliate such colleges as are strictly conducted on the lines of the Hindu University, and the teacher and pupils of which are loyal. The paper calls upon the Hindus to keep aloof from the machievous path adopted by the Muhammadan leaders in the matter, and hopes that the Maharaja of Darbhanga and Malviyaji will give their attention to its suggestions.

39. Seeing the Musalman agitation against the decision of the Government in regard to the Hindu and Moslem Universities, and the protest meetings held by them in various places, the *Mithila Mihir* [Darbhanga] of the 31st August asks, how long are the Hindus going to keep silent?

MITHILA MIHIR,  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

40. The *Aasanda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 29th August, referring to the statement that a European on Rs. 2,500 is to be appointed Vice-Chancellor of the Dacca University, asks why the country is to be saddled with the cost of maintaining this white elephant. The Calcutta University has an admittedly able Vice-Chancellor in Sir Ashutosh Mukherji, and it cannot be that there is no other man in the country equal to him. There is indeed an evil influence operating on the public funds of this country without intermission.

AASANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
Aug. 29th, 1912.

41. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 30th August writes:—

MOSLEM HITAIISHI,  
Aug. 30th, 1912.

Rai Saheb Isan Chandra Ghosh,  
M.A.

Since protesting against the confirmation in the post of Additional Inspector of Schools, Burdwan Division, of Babu Nalini Mohan Sanyal, whose anti-Musalman feelings are well known to many respectable Muhammadans (*vide* Report for the week ending the 17th August, 1912, page 948, paragraph 47), we have learnt that Babu Isan Chandra Ghosh is trying hard to secure that appointment for himself. We enter our emphatic protest against the post going to Isan Babu, and we shall be compelled to start a vigorous agitation in the event of his being selected for it. It is no doubt clear to everybody why Isan Babu is so eager to have the situation. When he was Deputy Inspector of Schools he used to compel his subordinate officers to introduce his own books in the schools within his jurisdiction. Then, when he became an Assistant Inspector of Schools his books practically had the monopoly of all the schools in the mufassal and in many schools in Calcutta as well. He used to induce the teachers of these schools to adopt his books, sometimes by persuasion and sometimes by threat, and when the matter came to the notice of the Government they transferred him to the teaching line, and orders were passed that he would never be placed in the inspecting line any more. We all remember how Mr. Nesfield had to resign the post of Director of Public Instruction in the United Provinces, because of his having got his books introduced as text-books in the schools of those provinces. If the Government could take such rigorous measures against an educated, unselfish and able European officer like Mr. Nesfield, we may confidently expect them not to appoint Isan Babu to the post of Additional or Assistant Inspector of Schools, even temporarily. Mr. Slacke and Sir Alexander Pedler acted justly in removing Isan Babu from the inspecting line. If now the Government place him again in the post of Inspector, people will lose all faith in their sense of justice. We know that the Hon'ble Mr. Kuchler is not a man to succumb to backstairs influence, and that whatever "recommendations" Isan Babu may secure will not enable him to win him over. Isan Babu argues that if Mr. Stark can hold the post of Additional Inspector of Schools, why should he (Isan Babu) not be allowed to do so? But Mr. Stark's book has been selected as a text-book by the Calcutta University, and the Additional Inspector of Schools can possibly have no hand in a matter like this. Isan Babu is eager to get the Additional Inspectorship because, under the new



system, text-books for primary schools will be selected by Inspectors of Schools. If the Government are anxious to reward Isan Babu for any merit they have found in him let them appoint him as a professor or as the Principal of some college, such as the Hooghly College or the Krishnagar College. If, however, he evinces his anti-Musalman feelings again we shall be under the necessity of protesting against his appointment to such a post also. It is only disinterested men who ought to be appointed to the post of Additional Inspector of Schools, and such a man can easily be found both among Hindus and Musalmans. So far, high posts in the Education Department have been the monopoly of our Hindu brethren. But there is no lack of able Musalman officers, and we shall be very happy if the Hon'ble Mr. Kuchler gives the office to a Musalman, and thus earns the gratitude of the Muhammadan community.

MUHAMMADI,  
Aug. 30th, 1912.

42. A correspondent of the *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th August urges the necessity of appointing a Musalman as Deputy Inspector of Schools in the Murshidabad district, in the interest of Musalman education. The district generally gets a Musalman Additional Deputy Inspector of Schools, who remains always under the thumb of the Hindu Deputy Inspectors. Last year, to the good fortune of the Musalmans in the district, Maulvi Huraniatulla was appointed Deputy Inspector, and within one year he increased the number of *maktabs* in the district from 50 to 150. But he has been transferred and a Hindu appointed in his place. If the authorities find it inconvenient to give a Musalman Deputy Inspector to the district, they should at least post a Musalman Additional Deputy Inspector at Kandi to be in charge of the subdivision.

NAVAVANGA,  
Aug. 16th, 1912.

43. Referring to the charge of misconduct with a student against a teacher of the Chandpur High English School, the *Navavanga* [Chandpur] of the 16th August says that both the teacher and the student should be removed from the school, so long as the case, which is *sub judice*, is not decided. It is a wonder that the teacher is being allowed to attend the school now.

STAR OF INDIA,  
Aug. 16th, 23rd, 1912

44. The *Star of India* [Arah] of the 16th and 23rd August withdrawing its remarks made in the article reported in paragraph 39, page 988 of the Weekly Report for the week ending the 24th August 1912 apologises to the Professors concerned as they were based on wrong information though made in good faith. The paper requests the Government however to safeguard the rights of the Muhammadans in the matter of appointment of teachers in the Law College.

DAILY BHARAT  
MITRA  
Aug. 27th, 1912.

45. Referring to the compulsory education introduced by a petty state in the Southern Marhatta country the *Daily Bharat Mitra* observes:—

“What a nice commentary on the administrative ability of the Government of India that a petty State should be able to do with a small income what the India Government cannot undertake unless they have Croesus's wealth.”

MOSLEM HITAISHI,  
Aug. 30th, 1912.

46. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 30th August takes strong exception to the selection of Nabin Chandra Sen's “Palasir Yuddha” and Bankim Chandra Chatterjee's “Durgesnandini” as text-books for the use of Musalman girls, because these books contain many passages which, the paper thinks, are against good taste. The paper also objects to books like the Bengali translation of Mrs. Henry Wood's novel “East Lynne” being allowed to be read by Matriculation students. The journal insinuates that everything is now done by money, and that it is some such influence which is at the back of objectionable books like those mentioned above being selected as text-books for boys and girls.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

HITAVADI,  
Aug. 30th, 1912.

47. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th August dwells on the opposition which the Calcutta Improvement Trust Bill encountered from the Indian public of Calcutta while it was on the legislative anvil, and then goes



on to refer to the composition of the Land Acquisition Tribunal, one of the members of which is about to be elected by the Calcutta Corporation. It would be a matter of amazement and indignation if Mr. Cooper were to be selected by the Corporation for this post. Mr. Cooper may be an able officer, but it is not known what claim he has to be a representative of the rate-payers on the Tribunal in question. But he is an old officer who enjoys extraordinary influence in the municipality and reckons many friends and supporters among the Commissioners. But all the same, it would be a serious scandal and a source of intense public dissatisfaction, if Mr. Cooper is elected and the power vested in the Corporation to select a member of the Tribunal to represent the rate-payers thereby abused. It would betray an utter indifference to the convenience and the wish of the rate-payers of the city. Formerly, when a Municipal Assessor had to fix the valuation of a piece of land, he used to associate with him an Assessor selected by the owner of the land. And if the two could not agree, then there used to be an appeal to the High Court. These rights have now been taken away from the rate-payers and it would be a further act of *zulm* on them if a municipal officer were selected to be a member of the Land Acquisition Tribunal. Moreover, this officer should not be saddled with these extra duties in addition to his ordinary duties as a municipal officer.

The new land acquisition rules for the Improvement Trust are sufficiently hard upon the rate-payers as they are. They will not be given the 15 per cent. statutory compensation allowance. If any house is unhealthy, the owner will be paid only the price of the land and of the building materials, and the cost of demolition will also be paid by him. If in addition to all this, there is to be on the Land Acquisition Tribunal an officer of the municipality utterly indifferent to the sorrows and losses of the rate-payers, that Tribunal will have absolutely no member on it to put in a good word for the house-owner.

We think the Corporation should choose some veteran and independent lawyer to represent it on the Land Acquisition Tribunal. The Corporation, as it is, is dominated too much by official influence. It would, therefore, cause no end of indignation and discontent among the citizens, if they are denied all facility of having their side of the case represented effectually on the Land Acquisition Tribunal. Let the Corporation bear these considerations in mind when electing their representative on the Tribunal.

48. In connexion with the Calcutta Improvement Trust Scheme No. 2, relating to an area north of Shambazar, the *Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 29th August dwells upon the panic caused among the inhabitants of the notified area. There is the prospect facing them of being turned out of their ancestral homes, with insufficient pecuniary compensation. They know not where they are to find accommodation again, close to educational institutions, bazars, etc.

49. One J. Sen of 4, Baikunth Nath Sen Lane, Calcutta, writing to the *Daily Bharat Mita* [Calcutta] of the 31st August, speaks of the alarm and confusion caused by the publication of the two Improvement Schemes by the Calcutta Improvement Trust, and asks the people to memorialize the Government, praying that before they are turned out of their houses they may be provided elsewhere, with as much land as they are to be deprived of, and that no more land may be acquired than is required for the purposes of the Trust. Besides, the paper wants the whole scheme to be published at once in order to remove all uncertainty about the quarters of the town where land may be required by the Improvement Trust, and to enable the person affected to make arrangements for their accommodation beforehand.

50. Seeing that the *Englishman* had noticed with regret the growing population of the Marwaris in quarters of the town like the Armenian street Surti Bagan etc., the *Hindi Bangavasi* asks if the Marwaris commit a sin in providing accommodation for themselves after paying adequate prices for land purchased by them, and if the *Englishman* would want them to do business in Calcutta but live elsewhere?

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
Aug. 29th, 1912.

DAILY BHARAT  
MITRA,  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

HINDI BANGAVASI,  
Sept. 2nd, 1912.



DAILY BHARAT  
MITRA,  
Aug. 27th, 1912.

51. Mr. Justice Woodroffe has declared Babu Upendra Nath Maiti of Midnapore a liar but the Midnapore people, says the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 27th August, answered the charge by electing him to be the Chairman of their Municipality.

ANANDA BASAR  
PATRIKA,  
Aug. 29th, 1912.

52. The *Ananda Basar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 29th August writes that the theory that Collectors are to be preferred to non-officials as Chairmen of district Boards, is not wholly tenable. Collectors are rarely local men and are therefore indifferent to local needs. By the time they acquire local knowledge, they are transferred elsewhere. Then, again, official Chairmen often act upon caprice or whim. Why then should not local men be given a small measure of authority to act as Chairmen of district boards?

MUHAMMADI,  
Aug. 30th, 1912.

53. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th August, writing on the subject of steeping of jute in the Sonai River in Basirhat, renews its prayer to the authorities to stop the practice.

MOSLEM HITAIISHI,  
Aug. 30th, 1912.

54. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 30th August complains of the fouling of the almost dry rivers and canals in Bengal villages, on account of jute steeping. It does not do any harm if jute is steeped in large rivers like the Pudda, the Meghna, etc., but if this is done in rivers like the Bhairab, the Kapotaksha, and the Ichhamati, the water becomes a positive nursery of many kinds of disease germs. If, again, jute-steeping be prohibited altogether, it will inflict a very serious loss on Musalman cultivators, most of whom grow jute. The paper, therefore, suggests that a number of tanks should be set apart in every village for the steeping of jute, and that the Government and zamindars should exert themselves in the matter.

( f )—Questions affecting the land.

SANJIVANI,  
Aug. 29th, 1912.

55. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 29th August says that the revaluation of the road cess in the Bakerganj district has been carried on with extreme hurry. One-third of the work was done in two years, and the remaining two-thirds in only one year. The following table will show what disastrous results this hurry has given rise to:—

No. of mahal.				Old assessment.			New assessment.		
				Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
497	...	...	...	20	12	3	121	3	9
660	...	...	...	12	1	5	87	1	6
770	...	...	...	4	3	0	31	1	6
868	...	...	...	2	3	0	26	11	3
1174	...	...	...	13	4	9	68	13	9
1222	...	...	...	12	1	7	80	12	3
1239	...	...	...	9	5	8	47	2	9
1301	...	...	...	3	1	7	24	5	3
1302	...	...	...	6	7	7	27	15	6
68	...	...	...	5	2	5	46	7	0
268	...	...	...	3	4	0	14	15	0
298	...	...	...	2	12	1	27	7	0
344	...	...	...	20	1	6	281	5	3
400	...	...	...	2	4	6	10	10	6
1158	...	...	...	1	4	3	8	12	3
753	...	...	...	1	7	0	10	10	3

The new assessment is, as will appear from the above, an exorbitantly heavy one. The Collector of Barisal has understood this, and engaged a few able officers to enquire into the revaluation work. The people of the district think that the work has been faulty, and are willing to bear the cost of its revision provided it is done by really able and experienced officers in whom they have faith. The attention of Lord Carmichael is sought in the matter.



56. A correspondent of the *Islam Rabi* [Tangail] of the 2nd August complains that the work of attestation in connection with the settlement of the Tangail subdivision, was done with so much hurry, even during the rains up to the 12th July when all the fields were flooded with water, that many zamindars and raiyats were unable to collect and examine their documents and produce them to support their claims. Great loss and inconvenience have thus been caused to many people. Again, in many places the very officer who had made Khanapuri and so forth, also did the attestation work. This naturally led to failure of appeals, for the officer who heard the appeals was the same officer as had made the first order. All disputes up to the final publication are decided summarily by Kanungos, Deputy Magistrates, and Civilian Magistrates, who have very little knowledge and experience of the intricacies of land tenure in the country and the law concerning it. The only object of some of these officers seems to be to create disputes between zamindars and their tenants and injure the former. The attention of the Government is drawn to the above complaints.

ISLAM RABI.  
Aug. 2nd, 1912.

(g)—*Railways and communications including canals and irrigation.*

57. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 30th August complains of the distress which prevails in some twenty villages within the jurisdiction of the Diamond Harbour and Kulpi Thanas (in the 24-Parganas), on account of the area being water-logged. The paper refers to the assurances which the Government gave to the people of those villages in 1907, as to the re-excavation of the canal lying between Mandir Bazar and the Diamond Harbour Fort and say that it is a pity that practically nothing has as yet been done in the matter. The whole tract is now under water, and the journal apprehends that there is every chance of the crops being destroyed, unless the Government takes prompt action.

MOSLEM HITASHI.  
Aug. 30th, 1912.

58. The *Tirhut Samacher* [Muzaffarpur] of the 29th August, draws attention to the floods, and consequent destruction of crops, in the great tract of land lying between Turki and Kurahni Railway Stations of Bengal North-Western Railway, owing to obstruction to natural drainage of the country for want of sufficient number of bridges on the line, and the misery caused thereby to the people of the adjacent villages, and prays that the Railway Company should build a bridge of sufficient length to allow the flood to pass through it. The District Board should adopt a similar course in respect of the road between Muzaffarpur and Hajipur.

TIRHUT SAMACHER.  
Aug. 29th, 1912.

(h)—*General.*

59. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th August reports that lately one Bhaba Ranjan De complained to the Additional District Magistrate of Mymensingh, that he had been assaulted and abused by Maulvi Abdul Hye, Excise Deputy Collector of the District. It appears that Bhaba Ranjan is *gomasta* in a *ganja* shop at Shambhuganj. The Deputy Collector, during a visit of inspection to the shop, asked Bhaba Ranjan if he had paid his fees. Bhaba Ranjan replied that he knew nothing about fees, the proprietors of the shop attended to that. This incensed the Maulvi, who abused the complainant by calling him "sala" (wife's brother) and "soor-ka-bachcha" (young of a swine) and then struck him with a cane. This drew blood from Bhaba Ranjan's person. Bhaba Ranjan says that, immediately after the assault, he went to the Additional District Magistrate and showed him the marks of the cuts he bore. The next day he formally complained to the Additional Magistrate, who issued a summons on Maulvi Abdul Hye. In the meantime, the Maulvi had served two notices on the proprietors of Bhaba Ranjan's shop, asking them to show cause why license for their *ganja* shop should not be withdrawn, because they

HITAVADI.  
Aug. 30th, 1912.



had for *gomasta* a most incompetent fellow in the person of Bhaba Ranjan, who did not know how to behave respectfully towards gentlemen. Cause was shown, but the reply of the Deputy Collector is not known.

The latest news, however, is that Bhaba Ranjan has withdrawn the complaint. Commenting on the foregoing, the paper says that this withdrawal of the complaint will not satisfy the public. If the Deputy Collector is guilty let him be punished. If he is innocent, let the complainant be prosecuted. In any case, let not the matter be hushed up.

SUARNANAVNIK,  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

60. The *Suarnanavik* [Calcutta] of the 31st August also notices the complaint above referred to, against Maulvi Abdul Hye, and hopes Lord Carmichael's attention will be drawn to the matter.

BANGAVASI,  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

61. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 31st August also draws the attention of Lord Carmichael to the above incident.

*Ibid.*

DAILY BHARAT  
MITRA,  
Aug. 30th, 1912.

62. Referring to the rumour that the services of the three defendants in the Midnapore Damage suit will be transferred to the province of Bihar and Orissa, and supporting the Bankipur *Behari* in its disapproval of the proposal, the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 30th August asks why it is that the Indian community shudders at the very names of these three officers, though Mr. Justice Woodroffe has highly praised them for their good services. The paper advises their retention in Bengal, for they have rendered good service there, while the new province does not want them.

DAILY BHARAT  
MITRA,  
Sept. 1st, 1912.

63. It appears to the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 1st September that the Government of Bihar and Orissa does not like to remain at Ranchi during the hot weather, and the visit of Sir Charles Bayley to Darjeeling some months ago, gives colour to the rumour that Mirik is after all likely to be selected for the summer residence of the Lieutenant-Governor. The *Pioneer's* suggestion that Darjeeling should be transferred to Bihar, and the Governor of Bengal should go to Shillong during the summer, is altogether absurd. The suggestion may appear plausible if the expenditure required for buildings to be constructed at Ranchi has to be considered, but the travelling expenses of the Bengal Government to and from Shillong every year would ultimately prove to be a heavier burden on the people.

We have, says the paper, a word to say in connection with the Hill Exodus before concluding our remarks on this subject. There may be some justification for the Viceroy requiring a hill residence, but we are unable to understand how a Lieutenant-Governor or Chief Commissioner, who has passed his whole official life in the plains, begins to feel the need of passing the hot whether in the hills no sooner he is elevated to those posts. Is it not curious? Of course the Lieutenant-Governor or the Chief Commissioner is not to blame in the matter. It is the system of the India Government which is responsible for it, but the remedy also lies with that Government alone.

MITHILA MIHIR,  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

64. One Chetnath Jha writes from Ranchi to the *Mithila Mihir* [Darbhanga] of the 31st August, complaining of the insanitary condition of Ranchi during the rains—want of conveyances and the depredations of thieves, mosquitos etc., and suggesting that the Lieutenant-Governor should remove to Puri for the rains.

HINDI BANGAVASI,  
Sept. 2nd, 1912.

65. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd September contradicts, on the authority of a respectable resident of Hathwa, the news published in its issue of the 12th August last about the local Post office suppressing letters of complaints against that estate, at the instance of the Dewan, and regrets the pain that must have been caused to that official on account of the publicity of an unfounded news.

DAILY BHARAT  
MITRA,  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

66. Ramjas Mul Kedarnath of Jalandhar writes a letter to the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 31st August, in which he refers to the India Government's circular of the 8th July inviting opinions about the attachment of the salary of military officers for debts under Civil Court decrees and



points out how any change in the present law making a distinction between Civil and Military officers in this respect, would be fraught with serious consequences, for it would be against the policy of the British Government to benefit debtors, specially those against whom a decree has been given by a competent court. He enumerates the various difficulties of a money-lender in executing a decree against a military officer, most of whom are possessed of nothing but their salary as security for paying their debts, and speaks of the change in the attitude of commissioned, warrant and medical officers, who owe money to Sahukars, ever since the issue of the above circular. Unless therefore the question is settled in a satisfactory way soon, the result in its opinion would be serious.

67. In reference to the letter of Ramjas Mul Kedarnath of Jalandhar published in its yesterday's issue, the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 1st September, quotes two instances in support of the statement made therein.

Attachment of a military officer's salary.

In one instance a Lieutenant set his dog upon his money-lenders who therefore could not approach him. In the other, a military officer engaged an Indian tutor but dismissed him after five days without paying him his wages. It is a wonder, therefore, how the Government of India proposes to exempt their salary from attachment.

68. The *Islam Rabi* [Tangail] of the 16th August protests against any effort to have the Tangail subdivision included in the Dacca district. The northern part of the subdivision is so distant from Dacca town that

The question of including Tangail in Dacca.

only its southern part can in any way be included in the Dacca district. But such a bifurcation of the subdivision will be ruinous to the interest of the local landholders, and detrimental to the progress of the place. In the Mymensingh district, the voice of the people of Tangail wields great power, but in the Dacca district it will never be able to hold its own against such powerful competitors as the people of Vikrampur, Maheswardi and Manikganj.

69. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 31st August says that, as it is simply impossible for even such a sympathetic Governor as Lord Carmichael, muchless for District

The panchayet system.

Magistrates with their numerous onerous duties pressing hard on them, to devote much time to the study of the wants of villages, it is necessary that the panchayet system should be reformed for the better administration of the rural districts. The present-day panchayets often fail to discharge their duties properly, and do more harm than good to the country. If able and educated men are appointed panchayets, they will be able to help the officials substantially with their views and suggestions in matters of village-improvement.

70. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 29th August refers to a passage in a recent speech by Lord Carmichael at Faridpur in which His Excellency is reported to

The Governor at Faridpur.

have spoken of supplementing the deficiency of the local personal knowledge of things he is gaining by his tours with knowledge gleaned from his officers. The paper speaks of the disappointment this statement has caused, for everybody understands how far it is possible to know real facts about the country through the eyes and ears of others, specially when those others are Civilians.

Then, again, His Excellency has spoken of co-operation on the part of the village public in effecting sanitary improvement. Such co-operation, the paper says, cannot possibly take the form of pecuniary help, for the villagers are too poor for that.

71. The *Faridpur Hitashini* [Faridpur] of the 20th August writes :—

His Excellency the Governor at Faridpur.

We understand that on the occasion of the visit of His Excellency the Governor to Faridpur, a torch-light procession will be held in the town. Such things are done in England to welcome any high personage whom the people wish to honour. But what earthly reason can there be for having it at Faridpur? Why, again, are the "Babus," the organisers of the show, going to have the procession composed of students instead of carrying the torches themselves? And what has our new Governor done as yet for which our "Babus" should honour him by carrying the torches themselves? We should

DAILY BHARAT  
MITRA,  
Sept. 1st, 1912.

ISLAM RABI,  
Aug. 16th, 1912.

BANGAVASI,  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

ANANDBAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
Aug. 29th, 1912.

FARIDPUR  
HITASHINI,  
Aug. 20th, 1912.



think it is rather humiliating to the people if they be anxious to show excessive respect for a high official before they have had any proof of his abilities. We cannot also justify the enlisting of the services of students in an affair like this, considering that it is held objectionable for them to listen to the chaste speeches of able orators or to attend Provincial Conferences. We do not think that the District Magistrate has been right in not consulting the students' guardians in the matter. During the anti-Partition agitation our "Babus" ordered the students to go barefooted, though they (the "Babus") never did so themselves. Their counsel led many young men away from their studies and ruined their prospects. In those days, students were not allowed even to see the procession which was held on the occasion of the festival of Bhuvaneswari Puja, though they were made to line, flag in hand, the streets through which any high officials happening to visit the town might pass. And now the current of loyalty which is flowing in full force, or rather with too much force, will be made to pass over the same student community. During the last Provincial Conference, the Divisional Commissioner invited the delegates to his residence and entertained them. We objected to the thing at the time, but no one cared to listen to us. The policy of the Government should always be uniform so that the people may act accordingly.

DAILY BHARAT  
MITRA,  
Aug. 27th, 1912.

72. Sir Bampfylde Fuller has gone but, says the *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 1st September, many a kith and kin of his who love his 'pet wife' are still to be found in this country. The Deputy Commissioner of Naini Tal is one of them for he has forbidden the Arya samajis from singing hymns in their temple situated at Tulli Tal in favour of a tailor named Moizuddin, who recites his prayers from a religious book to two or three companions of his at that time. The order would be intelligible if the shop had been a masjid, but to issue his order to please a few Musalmans is highly improper. The Arya samajists should approach the higher authorities and not rest till they get the Deputy Commissioner's order rescinded.

#### VI—MISCELLANEOUS.

HINDI  
BANGAVASI,  
Sept. 2nd, 1912.

73. Referring to the exception taken by Mr. Kier Hardie to the use of the term "Native" in referring to the Indians by Mr. Leech in his question about Agricultural Banks in the House of Commons, and the alleged indifference of Mr. Montagu in replying to the same, the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd September asks:—Does not the indifference shown by the Under Secretary of State in reply, indicate that Mr. Montagu also wants the Indians being referred to as "Natives."

BIHAR BANDHU,  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

74. Commenting on the objections raised by the Union Castle Steam-Ship Company to sell a passage ticket by its steamer to the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale for a trip to South Africa, the *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipur] of the 31st August quotes the following passage from a letter to the *Montreal Star*.

"It matters not that these people (Indians) are British subjects or that they fought in the wars of the Empire and wear war medals. The people of British Columbia intend to maintain this a White man's country. We do not want these people, and do not intend to have them, not even if the British Government and King George himself wished it."

What an expression of loyalty! exclaims the paper, the Black Indians who look upon their sovereign as a manifestation of the deity and consider themselves fortunate in having an opportunity to prostrate themselves before him, will not be allowed to enter a White man's land!

Indians who have carried the Union Jack through fire and sword in the battlefield for the protection of the British Empire should be denied the privileges of an ordinary human being in a British Colony!

The treatment which the Indians receive in the British Colonies, such as Transvaal, Canada and Natal are, the paper regrets, as a black spot on western civilization.



75. The declaration by the *Englishman* that the attempts of Sir Aga Khan and Sir Syed Amir Ali to establish cordial relations between Hindus and Musalmans must end in failure, leads the *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd September, to draw that journals attention to Moghal rule in the past and the state of things in the Native States at the present time, and asks it to explain the cause of good relations between them.

HINDI BANGAVASI,  
Sept. 2nd, 1912.

76. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 30th August writes that the fact that from time to time official secrets have been revealed in its columns, has made the *Nayak* an object of jealousy to many. To give examples of such secrets, the projected transfer of the Capital to Delhi, the modification of the Partition, etc., were all foreshadowed in this paper. It has also made forecasts of the re-constitution of Bihar and of the transfer of Darjeeling and Shillong, respectively, to Bihar and Bengal which, it is confident, events will justify. To return now to the question of the disclosure of these secrets. Well, the informants of the *Nayak* are those, who being victims of oppression and injustice, volunteer information to us. Many of these men are found in the ranks of Government servants. Indeed, if there is any sedition or discontent in the land, it is to be found mostly in the Government offices. For they are more directly victims of wrong-doing than members of the outside public. And these discontented officers are generally hypocrites, who, on the one hand, fawn on their official superiors and, on the other hand, secretly impart confidential information to us. It is these double-dealing officers who hide the truth from Government who have, for instance, kept the truth about the Midnapore and Mymensingh incidents from coming out.

NAYAK,  
Aug. 30th, 1912.

Of course, it is not always the case that men volunteer information to us. Often we guess, from their talk, the right information. Also there are some officers who think that to be attacked by a newspaper facilitates their promotion. The fact is, in all ranks of the public service, it is the scheming men who are coming to the front, leaving the honest and able officers discontented. Then again, there are some European officers who have pet theories of their own, who, in their official life, do not look truth in the face, but make the facts suit their theories.

To sum up: The present discontent is due (1) to the faulty system of education now being imparted, (2) to the improper conduct of Europeans, (3) to free intercommunication between England and India; and (4) to a desire on the part of the subject-people for equality with the rulers.

77. In an article under the heading, "What is our condition," the *Faridpur Hitaishini* [Faridpur] of the 20th August, gives a resumé of the circumstances which led up to the Permanent Settlement in Bengal, and deplores the distress which, it says, prevails in the other parts of India which are not under the Permanent Settlement. The paper then takes exception to the large export of rice from India which, it thinks, is the cause of the price of that article always running high. The journal considers it a pity that the people of India should be prevented from enjoying the products of their own mother country, and that they should be ill-treated by the people of other countries where they are compelled to migrate. The only privilege that we have, says the paper, is to be born and to die in India. Have we any free right over our own bodies either? No wonder that what right we have on our lands is of a very short tenure. The branches and leaves were chopped off long ago and the trunk is now about to be cut down.

FARIDPUR  
HITAISHINI,  
Aug. 20th, 1912.

78. In modification of its views expressed in the previous issue the *Narad* [Chupra] of the 26th August says that it is not necessary that social reforms must precede political reforms, but that both the reforms should go on side by side. A society can exercise little control over politics so long as the evils found in it have not been removed, for instance a society, which accepts the inviolable superiority of a certain caste or the divine right of kings, would not recognize any but monarchical form of Government. It would, not, therefore be fit for parliamentary institutions.

THE NARAD,  
Aug. 26th, 1912.



DAILY BHARAT  
MUTRA,  
Aug. 27th, 1912.

79. The *Daily Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 27th August hopes the Musalmans will listen to the advice of the 'Englishman' in his open letter to the *Statesman* of yesterday's (26th August) issue as it carries weight and cannot be lightly disposed of.

BIHAR BANDHU,  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

80. Dwelling upon the feeling of patriotism living in every British heart, and expressed from time to time at critical periods of their history, and also on its liberal policy in conquered countries as well as right of asylum granted to political refugees in every country where the English nation holds its sway, the *Bihar Bandhu* [Bankipur] of the 31st August observes:—As liberty pervades the very atmosphere of England every Indian should consider himself fortunate in being its subject. England is the preceptor of the world; we should therefore learn the lessons of nationality, patriotism and self-elevation from it, for we shall then be able to advance on the path of progress, and one day reach the position of the most advanced races of the world. Is it possible that a country which abolished slavery in America would stand in the way of progress of any nation? Trust therefore yourself, trust your Government and have faith in your God.

NAYAK  
Aug. 30th, 1912.

81. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 30th August suggests that the permanently-settled area in the United Provinces consisting of Gorakhpur, Ballia, Ghazipur, Benares, Mirzapur and Jaunpur, may be transferred to Bihar which will thus become a large province consisting of the Benares, Gorakhpur, Patna, Tirhut, Bhagalpur and Chota Nagpur Divisions. The Headquarters of the province should be Benares city, which is a larger, healthier and more ancient city than Patna, and offers larger house-accommodation. Orissa should cease to be united with Bihar, its affinities with Bengal being much closer; Assam, Bengal, Orissa, Manbhum, and Singhbhum should be under one Government. Such an arrangement will satisfy the Bengalis. Lord Carmichael is now going to Simla, and it is better that we should speak out on this subject now.

MUHAMMADI,  
Aug. 30th, 1912.

82. Though unwilling to enter into the subtle question as to whether Mr. K. B. Dutt was right or not in refusing to appear in the witness-box, the *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 30th August observes that public morality is sometimes different from what is morality from the legal standpoint, as, for instance, it is perfect morality, from the point of view of public conscience, to restrain people in licentiousness and drunkenness, but the law makes any such interference punishable. Similarly, Mr. K. B. Dutta's conduct in connection with the Midnapore affair has been so much characterised by strong-mindedness, earnest devotion to the cause of public good, firm faith in British justice and sterling self-sacrifice, that one cannot but respect him. In conclusion, the writer requests the Musalman lawyers in the country to learn from Mr. K. B. Dutta's conduct the lesson of self-sacrifice, in the interest of the community.

MOSLEM HITAIISHI,  
Aug. 30th, 1912.

83. In an article under the headings, "What have we learnt?" the *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 30th August writes:—

The Mymensingh and Midnapore cases.

The results of what are known as the Mymensingh and the Midnapore case have given rise to a good deal of hysteric outbursts both in England and in India. In England, papers like the *Times* and others are crying for a thorough reform of the Indian High Courts, and publicists like Sir J. D. Rees are suggesting the award of some compensation to Mr. Clarke. In this country, some are demanding the immediate removal of Mr. Justice Fletcher from the High Court, while others are getting up monster meetings to protest against the Privy Council's judgement in the Mymensingh case, and to present a tribute of honour to Mr. K. B. Dutta. It seems, therefore, that the atmosphere will soon be laden with a thick cloud of oratorical smoke. For ourselves, we are impartial lookers on of the whole scene, but the present state of affairs quite bewilders us. We remember how on the very morning after the Delhi changes were announced, the *Statesman* loudly demanded the removal of Lord Hardinge from India. And now a similar cry has been raised against Mr. Justice Fletcher. We are no lawyers,



and so it is beyond our powers to discuss the niceties of law involved in the question. But what we have racked our brains, though in vain, to find out is the good which has resulted from the expenditure, in the two cases, of the enormous quantity of money both by the Government and by the different plaintiffs. True, the results of the two cases have removed the undeserved stigma which had been cast upon Messrs. Clarke, Weston, Muzharul Huq and Lal Mohan Guha ; and that is some gain no doubt. But how many works of public utility could have been carried out with the amount that has been spent over the two suits ! It is a great pity that the Government should have had to throw so much money away in order to remove the unjust aspersions which had been cast upon some of its officials. As for Babu Brojendra Kishore Ray Chaudhuri and Babu Pyari Mohan Das, how much good service they could have rendered to their countrymen if, instead of wasting such a vast amount of money on the two suits, they had employed it to some work of public weal.

84. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 31st August writes that the impudence of the *Times* is really amazing. It surveys Indian affairs through the coloured spectacles of Anglo-Indians. In its ignorance, it is going to do a disservice to India which is absolutely inexcusable. It has recently accused High Court Judges of political bias, and called for an inquiry into the working of that institution. Of course all this is ridiculous to the educated section of the population. But had the *Times* known what idea may be produced by writings like these on the minds of the public at large, it would not have played with fire in this way. The British Empire in India rests on foundations of justice. As the effect of writings like these, the Indian public may come to regard the justice administered by the High Court with suspicion. Peace has been gradually restored to disturbed Bengal by the way in which the High Court has dealt out impartial justice during the last few years. Since Sir Lawrence Jenkins became Chief Justice, the influence of the High Court, and the public respect for it, have immensely increased. Save this ass of a writer in the *Times* everyone sees what Sir Lawrence Jenkins has done towards the restoration of peace in the land. What repressive laws could not effect, his lordship has done by winning popular regard and reverence for the High Court. Under these circumstances those shortsighted, ignorant and narrow-minded publicists who, by traducing the High Court, are creating a distrust of British justice in the minds of the people here, must be denounced as enemies of India, of the Indian Government, of the English nation, of justice and truth, and of the welfare of mankind generally.

*BASUMATI*,  
Aug. 31st, 1912.

#### URIYA PAPERS.

85. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 24th August thanks the Government of Bihar and Orissa for having awarded a special scholarship to an Uriya scholar, Babu Narain Misra, B. Sc. for continuing his studies for the M. Sc. examination in the Calcutta Presidency College.

*UTKALDIPIKA*,  
Aug. 24th, 1912.

86. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 24th August is much concerned to learn that the Canal authorities, not having made good arrangements to supply the paddy fields irrigated by canals in the Kendrapara Subdivision of the Cuttack District with sufficient water, reploughing of *Saradh* paddy suffers to a very large extent, and the agriculturists on finding not only their fields but also the canals dried up, pass their days in serious anxiety. The paper invites the special attention of the authorities to this state of things.

*UTKALDIPIKA*,  
Aug. 24th, 1912.

87. A correspondent of the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 24th August, Durga Charan Das by name, complains that the express trains of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway running between Howrah and Puri do not now-a-days stop at the Baitarani Road Station, as they used to do formerly. A road runs from this station to Jajpur, which is not only the head-quarters station of an important subdivision but also a place of pilgrimage full of Hindu shrines. The residents of villages within 25 miles from the Baitarani Road avail themselves of this

*UTKALDIPIKA*,  
Aug. 24th, 1912.



UTKALDIPIKA,  
Aug. 24th, 1912.

station. The correspondent invites the attention of the Railway authorities to the removal of this public inconvenience, by arranging to stop both the up and down Puri Expresses at this station.

88. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 24th August objects to the proposal of Government for removing the Sibpur Engineering College to Dacca, and giving Calcutta a Techno-

An objection.

logical institution instead.

URIYA AND  
NAVASAMVAD,  
Aug. 21st, 1912.

89. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 21st August writes to say that during the last few years many unpleasant reports to the following effect have been received

The Cuttack Training School.

regarding the hostel, attached to the Cuttack Training School, of which Babu Chandra Mohan Maharana, B.A., Head Master of the School, is the resident Superintendent :—

(1) The sanitary arrangements of the hostel, are said to have from time to time, been noticed unfavourably by the Cuttack Municipality. (2) About the year 1909 a very large number of boarders of the hostel made a very strong combination, left the hostel one evening, and did not return till the next day. (3) The present Head Master and Superintendent, together with 23 boarders and two menial servants, were arrested by the police on the night of the 28th April last for having assaulted a boy. A judicial enquiry was ordered, and while it was proceeding, Chandra Mohan Babu having apologised to the boy's grandfather and promised that such an incident would never occur in future, and the Police Sub-Inspector who made the arrest having expressed regret for not having released Chandra Mohan Babu on personal recognisance, the proceedings were stopped. The editor hopes that in case the Director of Public Instruction deems it necessary to get a correct view of the alleged events, he would be pleased to go through the records of the prolonged judicial enquiry. The editor further observes, "it is expected that there should not be any complaint regarding any loophole in the management of any institution subordinate to him, so long as the present Director of Public Instruction, Mr. Hallward, who is reported to be a very strict disciplinarian, is at the helm of affairs."

The paper publishes in its columns the petition of complaint filed before the District Magistrate, Cuttack, against Babu Chandra Mohan Maharana and others, and the certificate of Babu Debendra Nath Mukherjee, Assistant Surgeon, which was filed with the petition.

URIYA AND NAVA-  
SAMVAD,

90. A correspondent of the *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 21st

Complaint against pound-  
farming.

August observes that the present system of farming out cattle-pounds has given rise to various sorts of oppression. The pound houses are unsuitable for

cattle to live in, especially during the rains, and the farmers neither properly feed nor water the impounded cattle. They get innocent cattle impounded by hired men, and no one opposes such seizure for fear of prosecution under the Cattle Trespass Act. The writer requests the benign Government to abolish the present system of farming out pounds, and to provide for a preliminary inquiry either by the trying Magistrate or by some gentlemen into the alleged cases of rescuing trespassing cattle after seizure.

RAJENDRA CHANDRA SASTRI,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

*The 7th September 1912.*



# REPORT (PART II)

ON

## NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

### Week ending Saturday, 7th September 1912.

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**LIST OF NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED AND DEALT WITH  
BY THE BENGAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH**

*[As it stood on 1st January 1912.]*

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	"Amrita Bazar Patrika"	Calcutta	Daily	Kali Prasanna Chatterji, age 48, Brahmin	1,500 to 4,000
2	"Bengalee" ...	Ditto	Do.	Surendra Nath Banerji and Kali Nath Roy.	6,500 to 8,500
3	"Hindoo Patriot"	Ditto	Do.	Srish Chandra Sarbadhikari, age 44, and Kailash Chandra Kanjilal, pleader, Small Cause Court, also contributes.	800 to 1,000
4*	"Indian Echo"	Ditto	Weekly	Kunju Behary Bose, age 45, Kayastha...	600
5	"Indian Empire"	Ditto	Do.	Kishori Mohan Banerji and H. Dutt	2,000
6	"Indian Mirror"	Ditto	Daily	Satyendra Nath Sen	1,000 to 1,500
7	"Indian Nation"	Ditto	Weekly	Noreish Chandra Sarbadhikari and Srish Chandra Sarbadhikari.	1,000
8	"Musalman"	Ditto	Do.	A. Basul and M. Rahman	1,000 to 1,500
9	"Reis and Rayyet"	Ditto	Do.	Jogesh Chandra Dutt, age 61 years	400
10	"Telegraph"	Ditto	Do.	Satyendra Kumar Bose	2,000
11	"Comrade"	Ditto	Do.	Mr. Mahomed Ali, B.A. (Oxon.), age 30 years.	2,500
12	"Herald"	Dacca	Do.	Pryo Nath Sen	...
13	"East"	Do.	Bi-weekly	.....	.....

\* Has not been published for the last six months, and most probably it will not be published again.

**PART II OF THE WEEKLY REPORT.**

*Additions to, and alterations in, the List of Vernacular Newspapers as it stood on the 1st June 1912.*

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
New	"Worlds Messenger" ...	No. 18, Kali Prasad Chakraborty's Street.	Monthly (English).	Raghu Probir Mitra (Hindu), age 22 years.	100 copies.
Do.	"Current Indian Cases" (a law paper).	No. 1-1, College Square, East.	Monthly (English).	Monindra Nath Mitter and Brothers (Kayastha), age 32 years.	Ditto.







## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

1473. In the course of a long article on Egypt the *Comrade* writes:—

COMRADE.  
31st Aug. 1912.

Egypt.

"The effect of the British control on the political status of the people has been uniformly depressing. Almost all the important administrative posts are held by foreigners, and the Egyptian Ministry exists only to register the decrees of its 'advisers' and of the British Agent. The Legislative Council has absolutely no initiative in the work of legislation and exercises no control over the acts of the Executive. No effort has been made to give political education to the people or train them for the responsibilities of self-government. The opportunities for such education and training are daily diminishing. If a persistent rumour is to be believed, an early attempt will be made to confer full executive powers on the British officials who are at present associated with the Ministry as Under-Secretaries of State. The Nationalist Press and leaders that deprecate these tendencies have been, of late, summarily dealt with. Rigorous Press Laws have been enforced and the discontent has been driven underground. The 'Imperialist' Press treats all manifestations of discontent in Egypt as if it were an outbreak of rank sedition against Great Britain. Efforts have even been made to besmirch the Nationalist movement with the odium of anarchism. . . . Legitimate grievances, when suppressed, turn into a deadly poison and affect the health of the body-politic as a whole. You may plant an iron heel and call it order; but you must at the same time be prepared to wake up one fine morning to hear the rumblings of an earthquake. The Nationalist movement in Egypt represents the most natural and legitimate aspirations of the people. Rightly understood, it is the best compliment that the awakening mind of Young Egypt could pay to the most wholesome influences of the British control over Egyptian affairs. . . . No one can for a moment contemplate, without horror and dismay, the end of a constitutional struggle in revolutionary chaos and carnage. The contingency, however, would not be at all inconceivable if the aspirations of legitimate 'nationalism' were systematically met with a campaign of ruthless repression. . . . Egypt is not a dependency of England. Even if it were, British rule could not continue there indefinitely against the wishes of the people. Would it not, therefore, redound to the truly imperial glory of England if Egypt were literally and generously taught to govern herself? The interests of the bondholder and the cotton magnate may be very pressing, but the interest of about 12 millions, hungering for knowledge and comfort and material well-being and pulsating with new hopes and new aspirations are more pressing still. That a country can be governed on the lines of 'martial law and no d—d nonsense' may well be questioned."

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

1474. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* brings to notice that there has been

Criminal administration in the  
United Provinces.

an abnormal increase of murders and robberies in the United Provinces and the police have failed to find the offenders in a large number of cases, and writes as follows:—"We find that the usual stereotyped complaint about the people not co-operating with the police has also been availed of to account for this unsatisfactory state of things. It is surprising how a ruler of Sir J. Hewett's shrewdness and sagacity should allow himself to be the mouthpiece of such official palaverers. If there is, indeed, such an aversion or rather dread on the part of the people to co-operate with the police, is it really difficult for a wise and intelligent ruler to gauge the true reason? Who are the real sufferers by the increase of crimes in the province? Surely it is the people who are always the victims. That being so, does it stand to reason, that the latter should allow themselves to be willingly victimised by criminals and felons if they could save such a situation by

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA.  
4th Sept. 1912.



co-operating with the police? Why is it that they would rather be robbed than have anything to do with the police? The answers to these questions are obvious, but it is a pity that Sir John has shut his eyes to them and apportioned blame to the wrong quarter . . . . . Similarly, His Honour has also expressed his regret that the 'evilly-disposed persons have not been slow to trump up false cases against the police' because his Government have been very kindly prosecuting certain oppressive police officers. But can this be possible? The people, it is notorious, are in so mortal dread of the police that they would much rather suffer silently than have anything to do with the latter. Indeed, that is what Sir John himself regrets, as we have shown above. To suggest in the same breath that these very people have become so bold as to overcome that dread and figure as their chastisers and persecutors is, indeed, a big draft upon public credulity."

(b)—Working of the Courts.

HERALD,  
30th Aug. 1913.

1475. Referring to the judgment in the Midnapore damage suit, the *Herald* writes:—"The lesson is brought prominently before officialdom of the folly of their

distrust of the people of the country irrespective of their position. After all the agitations in the country over the Midnapore case have subsided, one thing will stand out—the ready way in which Mr. Weston identified himself with the police spies, and the distrust he displayed of even the best element of the country. How this distrust affected the peace in the land is only too well known to us, but will the officials take the obvious lesson? The lesson to the people is very sad. As the result of the Midnapore case and the Mymensingh case, the unwelcome truth is forced upon them that any remedy that may lie against executive high-handedness is next to impossible of attainment."

COMRADE,  
31st Aug. 1913.

1476. Commenting on the same case the *Comrade* writes:—"However great may be the difference of opinion as to the findings of the Judge, there can be no question that

the pronouncement of Mr. Justice Woodroffe is very decisive, very sure and very full-blooded. Indeed, it is because of its 'full-bloodedness' that one feels, at times, as if one were listening to the pleadings of an advocate. One comes across sentences, here and there, that sound like a retort and a challenge . . . . . The net result of the judgment has been that the defendants, holding responsible positions in the public service, one of them being a District Magistrate, have been declared *not* guilty of the charges that were proved against them in the Lower Court. The matter would have been one for unalloyed satisfaction if the press, both Indian and Anglo-Indian, had not imported into its discussions of the case a partisan feeling of the most virulent character. As the *Bengalee* had grandiloquently declared some time ago, a section of the Bengali public regarded the case as a trial of strength between 'the people and the police armed with the resources of the bureaucracy.' The chief concern of some of the Anglo-Indian journals had been to bring about a vindication of the character of Mr. Weston; they rarely felt any excessive love for 'the ends of justice.' Now that Mr. Weston has been declared innocent, they have thrown up their caps for sheer joy and ridiculed and savagely assailed the Judge who had dared to cast a slur on the character of an Englishman and a member of the Indian Civil Service to boot. Be that as it may, we congratulate all the three defendants cordially."

TELEGRAPH,  
3rd Sept. 1913.

1477. On the same subject the *Telegraph* observes:—"People marvel at the strange process through which his Lordship has arrived at the unexpected decision, more so, at his

savage strictures hurled at his learned colleague, Mr. Justice Fletcher, who is deservedly held in universal esteem. The more one examines critically each phase of this unique case, the more he becomes involved in confusion and unable to reconcile the contradictory character of its main issues."

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
3rd Sept. 1913.

1478. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* continues on the same subject.—"The present generation of the people of Midnapore will

always remember with a shudder the July, August and September of 1908, when the Executive sat on their breasts like a dread



night mare and made them feel, at every step, that they had lost all the rights of the subjects of the British Crown. In short, their life, liberty, honour and property were absolutely at the sweet will of the police and their unscrupulous spies and informers. . . . Let us here suppose a case: You have committed no offence and thus you are as free as any innocent man can be. Your house, however, is suddenly surrounded by an armed police force, who show you a search warrant and demand to search it. If you protest, you are charged with the offence of obstructing public officers in the discharge of their duty. They enter your bed-room; they ransack every part of your house; they rummage all your things, they read and take possession of confidential correspondence relating to family affairs which has passed between you and your wife; after three or four hours' search they, however, find nothing incriminating. One of them then turns round, holds up a paper before your eyes, and says, 'Here is a warrant against you for a non-bailable offence. I arrest you.' You are at once produced before a Magistrate who, without making any inquiry into the matter, passes the following order on your application for bail:— 'Bail refused. Remanded to *hajut*.' You run to the Sessions Judge for relief, but he also refuses to grant you bail, and you are immediately thrown into a small, dark cell, where you are kept confined for weeks together, subsisting on food which, perhaps, your dogs will refuse to eat, and living in the same room in which you have also to answer the calls of nature, your relatives and friends having at the same time no access to you. It is inconceivable that such things are possible under British rule in India, and yet this is exactly what happened at Midnapore."

1479. Commenting on the judgment in the Jagatsi *Asram* riot case, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—"So far as regards the treatment accorded to the male and female

Jagatsi riot case.

inmates of the *asram*, there cannot be any manner of doubt. Of course, it seems incredible that such high officers of the Government as the Deputy Commissioner or the Superintendent of Police or the Assistant Superintendent of Police could have any hand in the atrocious barbarities alleged to have been committed; all the same it is due to them to deny categorically all the serious charges the accused have made against them. The ghastly fact cannot be concealed that unarmed men and women were bayoneted and fired upon, though almost all the district authorities were present at the scene of occurrence. This is the most deplorable feature of the whole affair, and it is bound to shake the confidence of the people in the administration of the Assam authorities. We are simply astounded that the police were driven to take such bloody steps in capturing some unarmed men and women, alleged to have defied authority, which they deny. Indeed, the police could have easily effected their purpose by using their guns as *lathis*, as the trying Magistrate in his judgment says. Why did they then shoot human beings like dogs and cats? And how could the local authorities look on such atrocious acts with indifference? Fancy, defenceless children and women were treated in a manner which staggers humanity! The matter needs a thorough sifting, and we trust the popular Chief Commissioner, with whose embarrassing position we fully sympathise, will leave no stone unturned to restore confidence among the people, who have naturally been thrown into a state of wild consternation."

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
30th Aug. 1912.

1480. On the same subject the *Bengalee* writes:—"The only weapons with which the accused were armed were admittedly a number of tridents. The judgment, indeed,

*Ibid.*

tells us that a trident is a dangerous weapon, but it says in the same breath that the only injury inflicted with this weapon in the present case was slight. Surely, then, even if a trident were a dangerous weapon, which is doubtful at the best, the use which the accused persons made of this weapon did not apparently justify the police in firing their rifles. This view is further borne out by the fact that neither Mr. Beaumont nor the District Superintendent of Police appears to have given the order to fire. Is it believable that if the occasion did call for such order, they would not have given it? Further, Mr. Cosgrave says in his judgment that the police could have supported Mr. Beaumont more efficiently if they had clubbed their rifles and used them as *lathis*. Why was not this done? And surely if in the opinion of the

BENGALUR,  
30th Aug. 1912.



Court the requirements of the case could have been met by the use of *lathis*, it follows that the police, in firing their rifles, did exceed their duty. Mr. Cosgrave has expressed the opinion that the conduct of the police on the occasion calls for departmental action. He evidently refers only to the fact that the majority of the police present ran away. In our opinion the whole of the conduct of the police on the occasion calls for an enquiry. It cannot be forgotten that as a result of the firing by the police no less than six persons were wounded, one of whom has since died and another is lying seriously ill. In a case of this kind the public have a right to demand that the authorities should make a searching enquiry into the conduct of the police. If it will transpire as a result of the enquiry that there was no justification for the firing, then it will have to be held that the death of Mahendra Babu was not unavoidable and somebody will have to be punished for it."

TELEGRAPH,  
31st Aug. 1912.

1481. The following are the remarks of the *Telegraph* on the same subject:—"Perhaps they (the Police) saw the nightmare of another *Ananda Math* in Arunachal

Jagatsi riot case.

*Asram*. But if public sympathy declared itself in favour of the latter, the same cannot be said of the *Dolgobind Asram*, for even the 'own correspondents' of such papers as the *Patrika* and the *Bengalee* have testified to this fact. Curiously enough, no comments have been made by our correspondents on the adequacy or inadequacy of the sentences or the justice of the convictions. Some of the accused made no defence, but filed written statements in which they made allegations of oppression against the Government. The evidence, however, went to show that some of them had attacked the Assistant Superintendent of Police with *trisuls* or tridents. While we cannot countenance this procedure, we believe Government is in justice bound to hold a sifting enquiry as to why the armed police fired volleys among men and women, the most serious of whose offensive weapons were tridents. We hope Sir Archdale Earle, with his great reputation, will not fail to do this."

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
2nd Sept. 1912.

1482. On the same subject the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* continues:—"The judgment is one of those judicial documents of which one can make neither head nor tail, though

*Ibid.*

it deals with a most important affair. It is a lengthy one and contains information on several matters. Only one can gather very little about the real point at issue. Then, again, some of the conclusions of the trying Magistrate seem to be not only at variance with inferences to be drawn from actual facts, but quite novel and extraordinary in their nature. . . . It will be seen that the Assistant Police Superintendent went with the resolve that there should be 'no disturbance' and managed to create one resulting in bloodshed. Then, again, he charges the D. S. P., who is a Bengali Babu, with being 'frightened;' but did he himself show much bravery when he ran away from the fury of some irate *sadhus* armed with such formidable weapons as tridents and umbrellas, though he had 20 or more armed men at his disposal to protect him? Indeed, the A. S. P., who is described as 'sahib' in the judgment, made use of his feet very successfully, though, judging from his own account, he felt as if he were pursued by some tigers or rhinoceroses. For sometimes, he very frankly admits, he was dazed, and brought to his senses by the firing of guns. The most important incident in the affair is this firing of guns by the police. Where was the necessity for using these deadly weapons at all? Who is to be held responsible for the havoc that this unjustifiable act resulted in? The police force were under the control of Mr. Beaumont; he went with the determination of executing the warrant peacefully; he ordered the armed police to fix bayonets, which means, we believe, not to fire. All the same it is quite evident he was so utterly demoralised by the sight of the unarmed and saffron-robed *sanyasis* that he lost all control not only over himself, but over his subordinates as well, who would not obey his order, but go on firing and then running away for their dear lives! And who can say the bloodshed might not have been averted if they had not lost their senses at the sight of some phantoms? . . . We are really astounded to find that there is not one word of censure on this strange conduct of the police officers and their men. On the other hand, not only has Mr. Beaumont been given a good certificate of coolness, but the police have been virtually



held to be 'justified in firing to protect Mr. Beaumont, even if they had received no orders to fire.' What a dangerous finding! Imagine the disastrous results if armed illiterate constables have the privilege of firing, without orders, upon unarmed men and women! Yes, Mr. Beaumont did very well indeed, as the trying Magistrate says in his judgment, for did he not make very good use of his heels as soon as he saw the trident and the umbrella of the *sadhus*, and become so helpless as to be unable to prevent his men from firing upon unarmed persons, including women? And pray what is the sort of injury he received from the 'dangerous' weapons the *sadhus* used? According to his own admission, he got only two scratches on the right arm and one bruise on the left shoulder! As for the so-called wound he received on the back of his head, it was of such a serious nature that he was not aware of it till it was pointed out by the D. S. P.! And yet a trident, which every *sanyasi* carries with him as an emblem of religious order, is characterized as 'dangerous' by the Magistrate! We wonder he did not hold the umbrella also as a 'dangerous' weapon too! We have yet to consider the far more gruesome details of the arrest of the accused on the 8th of July, which reveal a humanity-staggering chapter of brutality and heartlessness. The judgment is quite silent on that point."

1483. A correspondent under the *nom-de-plume* "An Onlooker" writes as follows to the *Amrita Basar Patrika*:—"The account of the Jagatsi affair and the statements

The Jagatsi case.

of some of the accused in the case, as published in the *Patrika* of the 30th August, cannot but shock humanity. Indeed, one finds it hard to believe the treatment to which the *asram* people were subjected. The Magistrate has justified the firing of the guns upon the unarmed *sadhus*. But this finding can never satisfy the public. There was no armed resistance, no use of fire-arms on the part of the *asram* people, and yet they were fired upon, some of them having received wounds in the chest and other places, while the rule, if I remember correctly, strictly prohibits all firing above the thigh. Considering the great public feeling which the action of the police has evoked, it is to be hoped that an inquiry should be made into the whole affair by a body of officials and non-officials, not only to allay the feeling on this account, but to allow the police concerned an opportunity to vindicate their conduct in this connection."

AMRITA BASAR  
PATRIKA,  
3rd Sept. 1912.

1484. "The full text of the judgment in the Jagatsi *Asram* case," writes the *Bengalee*, "confirms the opinion we expressed the other day, that the conduct of the

*Ibid.*

police in the case calls for something more than a departmental enquiry. Two things, indeed, are quite clear:—(1) that the police got frightened at the very outset, and (2) that they fired apparently without orders. The fact that the police got frightened and that all save two of them ran away makes the conclusion irresistible that whatever action they subsequently took they must have taken more or less in a state of panic. The question, therefore, naturally arises—was there any occasion—was there the least justification, for this state of panic into which they were apparently thrown? . . . It is our deliberate opinion that the conduct of the police on the occasion calls for something more than departmental enquiry. Nothing less than an independent enquiry will, in fact, satisfy the public. . . . The Magistrate's dictum, that when the police see one of their officers hard pressed or imagine that he is, they are justified in firing even without orders, is a most dangerous dictum, and it is of the utmost importance that his official superior should say that it is."

BENGALUR,  
3rd Sept. 1912.

1485. "The partition being annulled," writes the *Herald*, "it seems as though we had nothing more to fight for, no political programme to work out, no need of any organized work which should inspire our educated

Separation of the judicial from  
the executive.

men with a proper sense of their duties and responsibilities and teach the commoner herd the lessons of cheerful obedience. No doubt organizations like the anti-partition agitation cannot continue for all time, but we wonder what has happened since the reversion of the partition to justify our present sleepy attitude . . . . On no question is the public mind more unanimous than on the necessity of the separation of the judicial and executive functions. And yet it is sad to contemplate how this question has received but scant attention at our hands . . . . It seems to us, however, that

HERALD,  
4th Sept. 1912.



what the Government most needs in this connection is a powerful push, a push to move it on from its present position. Now as regards the real difficulty that confronts the Government there is a lurking suspicion in the public mind that it is not so much the question of finance as of prestige that blocks the way of this important reform. There is a great fear of the loss of prestige in the mind of the executive which negatives all prospects of the separation of the judicial and executive functions. . . . The judgment of the Privy Council in the Mymensingh case and the whole story of the Midnapore conspiracy case and the way it has terminated shows with an unerring finger where the weak point in the armour lies. The love of authority which no doubt is only human has, indeed, run mad. The present we, therefore, consider to be the right moment to knock it on the head once for all. We trust yesterday's public meeting at the Town Hall will bring into life the agitation for the separation of the judicial and the executive functions."

BENGALER,  
1st Aug. 1912.

Promotions in the Provincial  
Judicial Service.

1486. In a letter to the *Bengales* "X" brings to notice that promotions of the Provincial Judiciary have been held in abeyance for more than a year, and vacancies have not been filled up since July 1912. It is hoped that the matter will attract the notice of the Chief Justice and His Excellency the Governor, and steps will be taken to remove the grievances.

HINDOO PATRIOT,  
2nd Sept. 1912.

Administration of justice in  
India.

1487. Writing on the administration of justice in India the *Hindoo Patriot* says:—"The Judges of the High Courts in India, Barristers or Civilians, are not free from mistakes, and, Barristers or Civilians, many of their judgments are reversed, some by Appellate Judges and some by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. But we have still confidence in our High Courts, because, notwithstanding liability to error and occasional slips, they regulate the vagaries of the subordinate courts, civil and criminal, and in most cases correctly administer the law and do substantial justice. People have excellent grounds to look upon the High Courts as the protectors of life, liberty and property. In most cases, they do far better justice than the lower courts. Instances of reversal of their judgments by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council are few, but in some of these reversals the Privy Council had failed to correctly appreciate Indian manners and habits and the facts and circumstances of the case. The composition of the Judicial Committee is not now as satisfactory as it used to be in days gone by, but, as it is said, 'to err is human.' The judgment of Mr. Justice Fletcher has been reversed by a Special Appellate Bench, but his judgment is in accord with the judgment of two of our admittedly able Judges, Sir Lawrence Jenkins and Justice Sir Ashutosh Mukharji. So substantially, there are three Judges against three others, at least as regards the credibility of the same witnesses. Who are right and who wrong? There are numerous instances in the Law Reports of the reversal of the judgments of the High Courts and the restoration of the judgments of the subordinate courts—of poor, ill-paid Subordinate Judges. Are we, therefore, to suppose that the Subordinate Judges are more efficient than the Judges of the High Court and that the Judicial Committee was always right in doing so?"

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
2nd Sept. 1912.

Judgment in the Ludhiana case.

1488. Referring to the judgment delivered in the case in which a girl, Nanki, is said to have been most brutally outraged by a number of men at the Ludhiana railway station, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* urges:—"Surely the Advocate for the defence could not put forward more ingenious reasons on behalf of his clients. We trust the Punjab Government will be pleased to grant the prayer of the poor woman in the interests of justice and to allay the strong public dissatisfaction caused by the decision of the Judge of Ludhiana."

TELEGRAPH,  
3rd Sept. 1912.

Indian law courts.

1489. "In our India law courts," writes the *Telegraph*, "it is customary to engage the services of the ablest and cleverest lawyer of the Bar to prosecute accused persons. With the unscrupulous police to manipulate evidence, the experience and best brain, the accused even with the best legal help available cannot cope successfully, and naturally go under . . . This sort of prosecutions is a great blot on the administration of criminal justice in India. The best remedy, to every right-thinking man, is to engage permanently an able



lawyer in each court to defend such cases, the cost of which must be borne by Government. We are glad to find that the Burma Government have taken up the cause of the poor undefended accused. It has promulgated orders that not only in the Sessions but also in Magistrate's courts, able lawyers should be engaged at State expense to defend such cases. It is a step in the right direction, and it speaks volumes of the humane rule of Sir Adamson, the popular Lieutenant-Governor of Burma. We hope Lord Hardinge will issue some such orders for the guidance of Local Governments."

1490. Referring to the opinion of Sir Henry Prinsep, a retired Judge of the Calcutta High Court, that India is rapidly drifting into a Vakil Raj, the *Bengalee* observes:—

Vakil Raj.

"The District Judges are practically to-day what they were 30 years ago. No serious attempt has been made to give them a judicial training which would qualify them to cope with the growing requirements of their office and the higher capacity of the Bar. The result has been that in many district courts, the District Judges are no match for the leaders of the Bar. Further, District Judges are often young, inexperienced officers, promoted from the ranks of Joint Magistrates. Their knowledge of Civil Law is practically nil, and they have to acquire it very often from the vakils who come to practise before them. They really learn their apprenticeship in Civil Law at the expense of the country. This is a state of things which is unfair to them and unfair to the country. . . . It is to relieve the Civil Service altogether of all judicial work and recruit District Judges from among trained lawyers. No Commission is required to suggest this solution. It is obvious to the meanest understanding. The administrators of the law must themselves be trained in the law. Every kind of work is now being highly specialized. The days of amateurs are past and gone. Now a District Magistrate, to-morrow a Director of Agriculture, the day after a Conservator of Forests, and finally a District Judge—this sort of thing will not do—public opinion will not permit this mischievous playing with public interests. Undoubtedly if Civilians are excluded from judicial work, the constitution of the High Court will have to be changed, for the Parliamentary Statute provides an irreducible minimum of the Civilian element in the High Court. There is really no reason why the Statute should not, if necessary, be modified."

1491. On this subject the *Herald* writes:—"It is not clear from the telegraphic summary of his (Sir Henry Prinsep's) views what exactly is in his mind, but we suppose

*Ibid.*

he wants Civilian Judges to counteract the influences of the Vakil Judges. Sir Henry, who was himself drawn from the Indian Civil Service, naturally enough sees additional virtues in Civilian Judges. There can be no question about the desirability of the members of the Civil Service possessing judicial capacity, as also of the improvement of the attainments of the District Judges. But we ask, why all this clamour for Civilian Judges for the High Courts? We are afraid this agitation for Civilian Judges will, at the present moment, only lend colour to the suspicion in the public mind that there is an unholy attempt going on for an admixture of the law with the will of the executive."

1492. On the same subject the *Amrita Bazar Patria* makes the following remarks:—"Before we take up Sir Henry's point, we should like to make some general remarks.

*Ibid.*

Litigation, in its present costly and complicated form, was unknown in this country in pre-British days. The profession is thus an exotic one. Is it, by the way, possible that excessive litigation is one of the results of the Western civilization of the 19th century? . . . We had practically no race of lawyers, say, one hundred years ago and we managed our affairs very well without them. They now form the most flourishing class in the country. As litigation is ruining our people, those who foster it, directly or indirectly, cannot be regarded as messengers of good; specially as, unlike the industrial classes, the lawyers are unproductive members of society. There is, however, this consolation, a poor and perhaps an ungenerous one, that England itself is not a less, possibly a more, lawyer-ridden country than India. It is a pity that more Indian lawyers are not employed as Judges of the High Courts. If this were done, these palladiums of the liberty of the people would not have been reduced to their present sad pass. Then, why should not they be utilized

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largely as District and Session Judges? That is one way of solving the problem raised by Sir Henry Prinsep. The other way is to recruit District Judges from the members of the Provincial Judicial Service and such Civilians as have given undoubted evidence of their legal proficiency and not been executivised. Sir Henry himself would have been an excellent Judge if his training had not been more executive than judicial."

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
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1493. Referring to the statement of the Prime Minister that two members of the Judicial Committee who attend to hear appeals from India are paid certain sums of money as an indemnity for the expenses they may incur, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—"The questions one is strongly tempted to put after this reply are:—Where is this 'indemnity' paid from—the British or the Indian Exchequer? Why is such an indemnity sanctioned only in the case of Indian appeals and not in that of Home or Colonial appeals? Is it because there is anything peculiar in the nature and hearing of the Indian appeals, or is it due to any other cause? In the former case, may the public know what the nature of this peculiarity is that differentiates Indian from the Home or Colonial appeals? By the bye, did Sir Amir Ali come under the category of the 'two members' who are paid to hear Indian appeals—when hearing the notorious Mymensingh appeal? If that is so, and if it is also a fact that the payment is made out of the Indian Exchequer, then Mr. Amir Ali ate Indian salt twice over—as a retired Indian Judge drawing pension and as a Privy Council Judge getting indemnity for hearing this Indian appeal. And well has he proved true to this double dose of Indian salt!"

(c)—Jails.

BENGALUR,  
4th Sept. 1912.

1494. In the course of an article urging that the Andamans should be abolished as a penal settlement, the *Bengales* writes:—"These islands might be utilized in other ways and the prisoners dealt with at home as they are in other countries. The system of prison discipline in its application to the worst class of offenders is now beyond the influence of public opinion. With the abolition of the penal settlement in the Andamans, it would be open to the inspection and scrutiny of public opinion. If the object of punishment be not merely the infliction of pain, but that it should serve as a deterrent, if the whole aim of the modern system of prison discipline is to reclaim and to reform, we have no hesitation in saying that all that is defeated by the system in vogue in the Andamans, and it cannot work satisfactorily unless subject to the control of public opinion. As regards political prisoners in the Andamans, the outstanding fact that strikes us is that they are treated worse than murderers. 'Murder case men,' says the account which we have published elsewhere, 'are given plain tickets and are eligible for all sorts of easy jobs. They get clerical work, as writers, munshis and compounders' Here is an account of the physical condition of some of the political prisoners:—'Abinash, Bibhuti, Ullaskar, Sudhir Sarkar, Bidhu, Kali, Nagendra Chandra, Abani and Priyanath had been going again and again to the hospital for malarial fever. Abinash and Ullas were very seriously ill only lately. Almost all of them have gone considerably down in weight. Bibhuti Bhusan is placed in North Bay and has to work in the salt depôt. He has to split four and a half cart-loads of fuel for the salt ovens. The labour is evidently too much for a boy of his young age; repeated attacks of fever reduced him greatly and his colour turned pale and sickly. At last the Superintendent gave him light labour in the hope that the boy would be relieved of that excessively heavy work and thus get rest for making up his lost health.' We know that in the official statement they have been described as 'so-called political prisoners,' for the reason, we believe, that some of them were implicated in acts of murder. But so were the Manipur political prisoners. It is not only consistent with humanity, but it is in the highest degree wise and statesmanlike to treat these young men with kindness and thus bring them back from their erring ways and inspire them with the clemency and humanity of a Government of whose irresistible power they have already a foretaste."



## (d)—Education.

1495. With regard to the attitude of Government towards the new Moslem University, the *Mussalman* writes:—"The Government has given most wanton offence to the Muhammadans by refusing the University the power of affiliation, and the community is determined not to accept the decision lying down. The other decision that the Viceroy should not be Chancellor of the University and that the powers proposed to be vested in the Chancellor should be exercised by the Governor-General in Council is equally resented. What is the necessity of establishing a University if it should be placed under complete official control? The community is of one mind not to accept such a University and will adopt every constitutional means for the attainment of its end. Perhaps the Government of India and the Secretary of State have not yet realised that they are going to confront an agitation unparalleled in the history of British rule in India, and that ultimately they will have to yield to that agitation."

MUSSELMAN,  
30th Aug. 1912.

1496. Writing on the same subject the *Comrade* observes:—"It is true that the Mussalmans did not formally approach the Government in 1911, when His Highness the Aga Khan first girded up his loins in order to accomplish what was being proposed year after year in the Educational Conference of the Mussalmans. But even though the Aga Khan was not so simple as to rush to the Member for Education with an elaborate constitution for an educational Utopia, it is well known that the Member for Education did not leave the Aga Khan unquestioned about the character of the proposed Muslim University. If the four practical objections which Sir Harcourt Butler has now raised on educational grounds against affiliation—and the many more which he can presumably raise when these four have been met with—had occurred to him earlier than the 9th of August 1912, he had ample opportunities to bring them to the notice of His Highness the Aga Khan or the Hon'ble the Raja Sahib of Mahmudabad even before the Mussalmans approached him for the first time in May 1911. If, however, these are after-thoughts—and, in that case, they would by no means be the first of their kind—the Member for Education had three subsequent opportunities, before the end of September 1911, of informing the Mussalmans that affiliation would be altogether impossible. A deputation consisting of the Hon'ble the Raja Sahib of Mahmudabad, Nawab Viqar-ul-Mulk, the Hon'ble Sahebzada Aftab Ahmed Khan, and Dr. Zia-ud-Din Ahmed waited on Sir Harcourt Butler on 16th May 1911, in order to make sure that they were proceeding generally on lines acceptable to Government before proceeding any further with the task of framing the details of the University constitution. The Government of India had a clear opportunity at the time to lay it down that they would not be responsible for any disappointment caused to the community, if the Muslim leaders continued to ask for donations on the understanding that affiliation would take place, and the Government of India, or the Secretary of State, subsequently refused to grant that power. Whosoever may now have 'finally' decided that there shall be no affiliation, it cannot be gainsaid that such a decision has come upon the Mussalmans as an unexpected blow, and the responsibility for its results cannot be repudiated by Government merely because an elaborate constitution was not submitted before the first pie was collected for the proposed University. . . . It cannot be said that Government was ignorant of the general lines on which it was proposed that a University should be established. Government knew of it from the schemes of the late Mr. Beck and Sir Theodore Morison, which were framed early in 1898. If after all this the Viceroy (Lord Elgin) contributed Rs. 2,000 to the University Fund, and the Lieutenant-Governor (Sir James La Touche) followed his noble example by contributing Rs. 500, it is not unreasonable to suppose that the Government encouraged the movement and had no objection to affiliation in 1898. Therefore, as the Hon'ble Mr. Shafi put it at Lucknow, Government is now estopped from pleading ignorance of the terms on which funds have all along been collected and of the real character of the University which the Mussalmans

COMRADE,  
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have for so many years been desiring to establish. And lest the Muslims suspect the Constitution Committee of having knowingly kept from them the fact that affiliation would under no circumstances be granted, let us say once for all that, beyond what we have stated, the Committee had no knowledge that this would be the Government's 'final' decision."

TELEGRAPH,  
31st Aug. 1912.

1497. On the same subject the *Telegraph* writes:—"The objections to the Moslem university and affiliation should have been raised at the outset by the Government of India, which maintains a costly government attitude."

Department of Education for the purpose of advising it in such matters. It has been left to the Secretary of State to point them out in a manner which reduces respect for the Government of India and its Education Department and at the same time gives unnecessary offence to the Muhammadan community.' There is much truth in the above. If the localization of the denominational Universities be deemed a *sine quâ non* now, it should have been announced much earlier; and it is certainly the fault of Sir Harcourt Butler's Department that this was not the case. By this failure of the Government of India to anticipate the objection of the Secretary of State considerable damage has certainly been done; and the best evidence of this state of things is the withdrawal of support by many donors and sympathisers. It remains, therefore, to be seen whether it would at all be possible to establish the Universities, and if it really turns out that it would not be possible to found the two private and popular Universities, as proposed, the Government would not appear in the best light. We hope, therefore, that Lord Crewe would revise his order in the light of public opinion."

HERALD,  
31st Aug. 1912.

1498. Writing on the new Dacca University the *Herald* observes:—

Dacca University.

"The popular idea about the Dacca University as far as we can judge is that, if established in a proper way, it will be quite welcome; otherwise no amount of allurements will induce the people to back up the institution. No judgment has yet been pronounced by the country, for there is no material yet to form the decision from. It is manifestly unjust to consider the proposed University as a special measure for the benefit of Dacca or this district. If we have a well equipped modern Teaching and Residential University in this city, people from all the quarters of Bengal will be able to derive the benefit of an advanced institution like that. And if we avoid the smallmindedness which could object to students of the Calcutta side coming up to Dacca, while quite approving the reverse practice, we are sure, if the Dacca University is what it should be, a large number of people from all quarters will take the benefit of the new institution."

TELEGRAPH,  
3rd Sept. 1912.

1499. "It is reported" writes the *Telegraph*, "that on the establishment of the Dacca University, an educational officer will be imported from England, on a princely salary

*Ibid.*

of Rs. 2,500 per month to serve as Vice-Chancellor of the same. If it comes out true, we protest against such commodity, however serviceable, to be thrust upon an infant University. The amount to be expended upon him may be utilized in diverse useful purposes of the institution. In India, all the Universities are presided over by honorary Vice-Chancellors, and it has never been whispered even by their unfriendly critics that the machinery of work had suffered any way . . . . There is no dearth of able men in Bengal to do the needful. Then why is such waste of public money contemplated? If the Government wants a whole-time man on a salary basis, our educational Indian members can offer such a man,—say Babu Brojendra Kumar Seal, of Cooch Bihar College. Why then go to England, all the way, to get a man?"

HINDOO PATRIOT,  
2nd Sept. 1912.

1500. In the course of an article on agricultural education, the *Hindoo Patriot* writes:—"It is to be regretted that amidst the great stir that is now being made by the

Agricultural education.

industrial movements of this country, due recognition has not been taken of agricultural education. Thanks to the Governmental aid and interference in this direction. But on the part of the people, where is the spirit of appreciation of the Governmental efforts and where is the spirit of self-help? In the proper inter-relationships of these external and personal forces lie the elements of success. Education prepares men for complete living. Is there any education,



except agricultural, which has the potentialities of developing a complete life? For 75 per cent. of the people of our country classical or fancy learning has very little attraction, because they are dependent directly on the land. They need agricultural education in order to make them all-round men . . . . We have to dismiss the delusion that to do farming is derogatory. We have to be retrospective and look back to the prosperous days of Indian civilization, when agriculture was held in the highest esteem."

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

1501. Writing on "Village Sanitation" the *Bengalee* observes:—"The villages of Bengal, by reason of their insanitary condition, have become more or less uninhabitable.

Village sanitation.

Every year cholera and malarious fever claim their victims by hundreds of thousands. Village sanitation is, therefore, the problem of problems, and we are glad that His Excellency has taken up the question in right earnest. If he can solve the problem, or even help forward its solution, he will have rendered the most memorable service to the people of Bengal. There are the village organizations, called Unions, under the Local Self-Government Act. But they are moribund institutions—they have neither the energy, the capacity nor even the funds to undertake village sanitation. They may, however, be revived into life, and may be made the centres of sanitation and even of primary education. Where are the funds to come from? The District Boards may supply the funds, but the District Boards themselves are impecunious—they have not even enough to meet their most pressing wants. We have suggested in these columns the diversion of the proceeds of the *chaukidari* tax for village sanitation. Watch and ward are the duties of the Government, and no part of this charge should be thrown upon the proceeds of local taxation. Large schemes of drainage may be carried out by the Government, but effective sanitation must proceed from the village centres."

1502. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* regrets that His Excellency has imbibed the usual official notion that the people in the interior have a bad habit of breaking sanitary laws.

*Ibid.*

There is absolutely no foundation for this allegation. It is quite true that the bulk of them now drink the water of the same tank or pond in which they bathe and wash themselves. But this is not because they have any particular love for such dirty water, but because they are in a most helpless condition, having perhaps only one tank for drinking, bathing and washing purposes. Give them more tanks and they will certainly not do it. They did not do it 50 years ago, when every village had a number of tanks, one or two of which were invariably reserved for drawing drinking water for them."

1503. Writing the same subject the *Telegraph* observes:—"We are fully aware that the zamindars, who are mostly living beyond their ample means and are never in want

*Ibid.*

of money when they want it for luxuries or for the satisfaction of their hankering for titles, would raise a cry against any proposal which aims at their contributing to the weal of the masses. But the greatest good to the largest number should be the principle to guide us in this matter. Why should they not, like their forefathers, excavate new tanks and reclaim old ones in their zamindaris when the Government is willing to relieve them to a certain extent? If they were to do their fair share in this respect, others would follow their example quite freely. One thing the rulers may do,—they may proclaim that only those zamindars who spend money adequately to their means on the improvement of water-supply and village sanitation, also education and medical relief, would be entitled to recognition by the Government, and by no means those who consult their own comfort and luxury and give parties and *nautches*."

1504. Referring to the question of sanitary improvements in the villages, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—"If the proceeds of the road-cess, which was levied so

*Ibid.*

far back as 1872, were devoted to the purposes for which it was originally created, the question of water-scarcity would not have cropped up at all. What, however, the Local Government did was to divert these proceeds into

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channels for which they were not originally meant, and spend them on objects it was the Government's duty to carry out. What is now needed is that the Local Government should disgorge all the road-cess money it has been swallowing for the last 40 years and apply the same to the supply of drinking water and sanitary improvements in the villages. To shut the eyes to such a flagrant breach of duty on the part of the authorities and harp on the imaginary vices of the landholding classes, is to draw a red herring in the path of a much-needed reform."

HINDOO PATRIOT,  
2nd Sept. 1912.

1505. On the same subject the *Hindoo Patriot* writes:—"Lord Carmichael has hit the nail right on the head by declaring that water-supply and sanitation are the two crying

Village Sanitation.

needs of our villages, and His Excellency is equally correct in saying that in this matter the co-operation of the people with the officers of Government is indispensable. It is no use charging the British Government with responsibility for most of the ills that we are heir to, such as floods, fevers and famines, plague and pestilence. Government may or may not have been remiss in their duty, but what have we done to help Government? If our villages are hot-beds of disease, no Government can convert them into sweet sanatoria, until the villagers themselves have learned to appreciate the virtue of healthy surroundings. Nor must it be forgotten that the imposition of the road-cess has practically absolved the zamindars of their obligations in respect of the sanitation and water-supply of villages. If the proceeds of the road-cess had been devoted to its legitimate purposes, instead of being diverted to other objects, then the condition of rural tracts would not have become so deplorable. We do not go so far as to throw the entire blame upon Government but neither would it be fair or just to hold the zamindar responsible for a state of things the continuance of which is certainly not conducive to his own advantage. He has never been backward in doing his share of the work, and he who does not know it, knows very little of the country."

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1506. In the course of a letter to the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* regarding the same subject, "A Rate-payer," Krishnagar, writes:—"The local Municipality, though an energetic

*Ibid.*

body, is found wanting in its duty towards the people in this connection. While I admit its resources are not so great as the resources of some of our first-class Municipalities in Bengal, still with the means at its disposal it can enter into a crusade against insanitation. Rank jungles which exist in abundance and which are the contributory cause to the growth of malaria should be cleared away in no time. The Legislature has armed the Municipality with full power to enforce measures relating to the clearance of jungles. The Municipality evinced some interest in the past in this matter, but I regret to say that the city fathers were somewhat callous lately."

TELEGRAPH,  
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1507. Referring to the statement of His Excellency the Governor, in his reply to the Faridpur address, that the Decentralization Commission was against the proposal to appoint a non-official Chairman mainly because they

Appointment of non-official  
Chairmen for District Boards.

thought a non-official Chairman would never have as much local knowledge as the Collector, the *Telegraph* writes:—"So far as we know our people, we believe very few persons would be available in the mufassal who would be equally familiar with every part of their respective districts or would care to devote as much time to the work of the Boards as is imperative for the due discharge of their functions. More than that, it is not likely that there are everywhere men who can claim justly to be the peers of district officers in general education, administrative qualities, in breadth of view, and in the catholicity of spirit. The way civic duties are often performed by our countrymen is no guarantee for the success of non-official Chairmen for District Boards. It is frivolous to argue that if Mr. R. C. Dutt was a Bengali, every Bengali Deputy Magistrate or Sub-Deputy Collector or every successful district lawyer has the same qualifications. Cliques and partisanship have, again, been the bane of our public life. There is not one association in the land which does not give evidence of this national defect. It is for all these reasons that pseudo-patriotism does not blind our eyes to patent facts, capable of no double interpretation. All the same we urge that there is much in the present system of District Boards and their control by district officers which is capable of improvement; but this is another story."



(g)—*Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

1508. "A Zamindar," Dinajpur, writes as follows to the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*:—"Since the year 1910, when the East Indian Railway undertook an enquiry into the traffic prospects of the proposed Sainthia-Berhampur Railway, we have been labouring under a blissful hallucination that the East Indian Railway would soon undertake the construction of the projected line from Sainthia to Berhampur *via* Kandi, thus opening up the most benighted of subdivisions in Bengal. If my information is correct, it was given out that after the completion of the Barharwa-Azimganj-Katwa line, the Sainthia-Berhampur line would be taken up by the East Indian Railway. As at present known, the Barharwa-Azimganj-Katwa line will be completed by March 1913. I may say, in passing, that with the opening of the Berhampur-Azimganj-Katwa Railway, which will soon be an accomplished fact, all the subdivisions of Murshidabad will be served by railways, save the Kandi subdivision, which will remain as land-locked as ever. As the situation now stands, it is only meet and proper that the East Indian Railway should let the public know their intention. If they mean business and seriously think of taking up the construction of the said line by 1913, well and good, and the public mind would be set at rest. If, however, the construction of the line by the East Indian Railway be not within the range of immediate possibility, we would earnestly ask any private company to approach this question of construction by them in all seriousness and embark upon the enterprise immediately. This line, if undertaken, promises to be fraught with immense possibilities. Messrs. Martin & Co. or Messrs. Mcleod & Co., of Calcutta, cannot do better than give the construction of this very important line their immediate attention."

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(h)—*General.*

1509. A correspondent to the *Bengalee*, under the non-de-plum "Spectator," brings to notice that the prospects of clerks of the Calcutta General Post Office are daily growing worse. He says:—"The importation of outsiders under the cover of the 'Fifth vacancy' rule has become a standing scandal to the General Post Office. It is noteworthy that since the introduction of this practice a marked preference is being shown to a certain community. The selections made by the Presidency Postmaster have, however, brought little credit to the department. . . . The outsider who was appointed at Wellesley on Rs. 150—10—200 was retained in a long officiating vacancy in that grade at the Calcutta General Post Office, while a junior man in the grade of Rs. 100—10—150 was appointed to act on Rs. 150—10—200 at Wellesley. The Presidency Postmaster has probably defended his action in this case on the ground that the Wellesley Post Office being situated in the heart of the European quarter, preference was given to a European Sub-Postmaster. If such futile arguments are worth repeating, may we ask why native Sub-Postmasters have been selected for such offices as Dhurumtolla, Outram, Fort William and others in the southern portion of the city, where the European element predominates, and was not this same Wellesley Post Office ably managed some time ago by an Indian graduate attached to the General Post Office? If a Eurasian Sub-Postmaster is necessary for Wellesley, it would on the same principle be advisable to put native Sub-Postmasters in charge of offices like Bow Bazar and Simla. We hope that our worthy Director-General, the Hon'ble Sir Charles Stewart Wilson, will not allow himself to be hoodwinked by his subordinate officers, but take up the matter personally and do justice to the rightful claims of the men of the General Post Office."

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1510. With reference to a letter in the *Pioneer* suggesting that Darjeeling should be made the summer capital of the new Province of Bihar and Orissa, and Shillong that of Bengal, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes:—"As the writer bases his proposition on the ground of cost, which is a sound one, why should not Mr. Brodrick's scheme be taken into consideration,—we mean the scheme of placing the whole of Bengal, Assam, Bihar and Orissa under a Governor and Council? This will surely save several crores of rupees per annum. In that case, in the place of nine administrators and quasi-administrators (*i.e.*, members of the Executive Council), we should have only three."

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1511. On this subject the *Bengalee* writes:—"That territorial re-distribution of a particular kind is inevitable in the near future, we are firmly convinced; but it is not of the kind suggested by the writer. The present arrangement involves some clear anomalies and is besides incompatible, in some of its aspects, with the policy laid down in the Despatch of the Government of India. All that the Government of India will probably do in the near future—and they will have to do it sooner or later—is to rectify these errors and to give effect to their own policy. In other words, the Bengali-speaking districts or parts of districts will all be incorporated with Bengal, and if there are tracts at present included in Bengal which ought naturally and geographically to belong to some other province, they will be severed from Bengal. To suppose for one moment that to this latter category belongs Darjeeling, which has been the summer capital of Bengal ever since it became the city that we know it to be, is on the face of it absurd."

Territorial changes.

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Sanitation and administrative reform.

1512. The cause of the ruinous condition of the villages of Bengal, observes the *Bengalee*, is due not only to want of sanitation. There is another reason why permanent residence in the rural areas is not considered desirable by those who have any stake in the country. "In East Bengal, there is still prevalent, we fear, a very extensive system of police surveillance which is inconvenient to a degree and galling to one's self-respect. The partition has been modified and a great and salutary change has come with it in the temper of our rulers and in the entire tone of the administration; but as was recently pointed out in an address that was presented to His Excellency Lord Carmichael, police surveillance in some of the Eastern districts still continues. . . . The enormous power of the District Magistrate, due to the combination of judicial and executive functions, is a menace to the local notabilities. . . . It is the easiest thing in the world for a District Magistrate, if he were so minded, to bring an obnoxious zamindar to his knees. . . . There are instances of zamindars, who have done great service to the community, who felt that it was unsafe for them to live in their native villages. We need only instance the case of the late Maharaja Suryakanta of Mymensingh, one of the greatest benefactors of his district. Since the partition of Bengal he continuously resided in Calcutta, and when ill-health compelled him to seek for a change of climate, he went to Deoghur, where he died. . . . Rightly or wrongly, there is the impression that living in the mufassal is not always safe for persons who have anything to lose. If the well-to-do classes lived in their village-homes, they would in their own interests look to their sanitation. The combination of judicial and executive functions has thus a close bearing upon the problem of sanitation."

TELEGRAPH,  
31st Aug. 1912.

1513. The *Telegraph* writes as follows with regard to Delhi:—"We have heard a rumour that no further progress would be made with temporary works at the new capital

Delhi.

till Mr. Montagu has come out, conferred with the Government of India, and inspected the sites. The whole country would rejoice if there be any truth in this rumour, because it is comprehensible to the meanest intelligence that the money proposed to be spent on temporary works would be so much money thrown away. We would, therefore, be glad if the rumour comes out true. The fact is, no harm could possibly be done if the Government of India had decided, or would still decide, to accommodate its offices where they were so long accommodated till the new capital were built. On the other hand, such a course would accustom the people gradually to the change and save a huge outlay. But perhaps it is idle to think of such a contingency, for it has been announced that His Excellency the Viceroy would make his State entry into Delhi in December."

AMRITA BASAR  
PATRIKA,  
2nd Sep. 1912.

Offices of Superintending Engineers, Public Works Department.

1514. With reference to a letter ventilating certain grievances of the clerical establishments of Superintending Engineers, Public Works Department, Bengal, the *Amrita Basar Patrika* remarks:—"It is indeed a puzzle to the public why, in spite of an increased scale of pay being sanctioned for the clerical establishments of the other sister departments, e.g., the Inspectors-General of Registration, Prisons, Civil Hospitals, etc., this establishment alone should be relegated to the limbo of neglect."



1515. "It is reported," writes the *Hindoo Patriot*, "that the Nicholson

The Nicholson Committee.

Committee will recommend the disbandment of no fewer than twenty-seven Native regiments and the reduction of the British garrison by six battalions. That these proposals will be strongly opposed by the Anglo-Indian community and the Anglo-Indian Press, of course goes without saying. But with the Russian danger removed, at any rate, for some years to come, and the frontiers comparatively free from complications, coupled with the approaching disappearance of the opium revenue and the cost of the creation of the new Delhi, the Government of India have been forced to effect considerable retrenchments, and so the scissors are to be applied first to the Military Budget which absorbs nearly one-third of the total revenue of India. Whatever may be the opinion of vested interests, the public verdict is that the Indian military establishment is far too big for the requirements of the country and affords ample room for reduction in almost every direction."

HINDOO PATRIOT.  
2nd. Sep. 1912.

1516. With regard to a recent Finance Department Resolution referring

The opium question.

to the consumption of opium and the policy which the Government of India has resolved to pursue in connection therewith, the *Hindoo Patriot* writes:—"As every one knows, opium is every extensively used in this country for medical purposes. The Commissioners, while giving credit to the Governments participating in the anti-opium movement, for what they have done and are doing to restrict and reduce the consumption of opium, recommended that greater stringency should be exercised in regard to the sale of opium for other than medical purposes. Well, we have no objection to this proposal, but we think that those who have taken to eating opium on medical grounds should be left altogether unmolested. . . . We are therefore rather concerned to find that it is proposed to enhance the price of opium, so as to make its consumption a 'luxury.' In the name of the votaries of the drug—and they included a Coleridge and a De Quincey—we protest against the threatened increase of the issue price of opium, which must necessarily react upon its retail price. As regards the question of the legal limit of private possession of opium, we trust it will not be reduced to the 'daily dose,' as in the case of opium-smoking. In the interior, the opium shop is situated perhaps at a distance of three or four miles. To reduce the limit and thereby compel the opium-eater to resort to the shop far more frequently than would be either convenient to him or even practicable, would be manifestly cruel and unfair. As regards morphia, which is more an intoxicant than a medicine, we have no objection to Government adopting the most stringent measures in order to check the growth of this new vice."

HINDOO PATRIOT.  
2nd Sep. 1912.

1517. Referring to the rumour from a Simla correspondent that the

Public Service Commission.

Public Service Commission will enquire into the desirability of the practice of nominating official members of the Viceroy's Council to high Presidential or other lucrative posts at the end of their term, the *Telegraph* writes:—"It has been found that in order to obtain such posts, they generally ingratiate themselves into the good graces of the Viceroy in preference to their discharge of legitimate functions. A member who wants to secure the post of Lieutenant-Governor of a Province after his term in the Council, must be prepared to humour the Viceroy at any cost. In consequence, generally, not the ablest, but the best, favoured man get the coveted post. If such be the case, why not send men-like Governors, direct from home? That would obviate all difficulties, and remove the scandal."

TELEGRAPH.  
3rd Sept. 1912.

1518. Referring to a notification by the Bengal Government regarding

Provincial Civil Service.

rules for admission to the Provincial Service, the *Bengalee* writes:—"The rules lay down, in our opinion very properly, that among the indispensable qualifications for a candidate for appointment by recruitment must be that he is a graduate. We can only hope that this rule will be strictly observed, and that it will, as a rule, apply to all candidates whatever, and not merely to candidates for appointment by recruitment. Taken as a whole, the present rules, we are bound to say, have given much less satisfaction than the old rules under which a proportion of the appointments were made on the result of a competitive examination. . . . We are firmly convinced that the Government will, sooner or later,

BENGALIAN.  
6th Aug. 1912.



have to revert to the old system, at any rate in some of its essential features, and the sooner it does so, the better it will be for the Service and for all concerned.

BENGALUR,  
3rd Sept. 1912.

1519. Anent this "Alpha" writes to the *Bengalee* as follows:—"Lord Carmichael has as yet done nothing very remarkable. Indeed, he has had hardly time to gather all the threads of the administration into his hands, and what is the secret of the phenomenal success of his first progress through the country and of the amazing popularity which he has earned within so short a time? . . . In many places His Excellency did not say much in favour of the various addresses presented to him by the people; but everywhere the people felt impressed that he was speaking frankly from either mistaken or inadequate information, but never for want of appreciation of the wants and wishes of the people."

Lord Carmichael's tour through  
East and North Bengal.

AMRITA BASAR  
PATRIKA,  
4th Sept. 1912.

1520. "Well may the Female Medical College to be started in Delhi," writes the *Amrita Basar Patrika*, "be regarded by those English lady doctors, who have lost their sleep and appetite over the miseries of their Indian sisters, in the light of a windfall! They have been moving heaven and earth for organizing a women's medical service in India under the garb of philanthropy, but in reality to serve their own purpose. Some of them, as the reader is aware, waited in deputation upon the Secretary of State for India last month and made an attempt to influence him to import a large number of lady doctors from England at a great cost to the Indian tax-payers. The Secretary of State was very sympathetic, but the want of funds stood in the way of meeting their wishes. What he failed to do for these lady doctors, the proposed college at Delhi will at least partially do, for it goes without saying that this college will give employment to a number of lady doctors imported from England."

Female Medical College.

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
30th Aug. 1912.

1521. "The problem of Hindu Muhammadan relations," "observes the *Indian Mirror*, is one to which too much importance cannot be attached by the wise and thoughtful men of both communities, for once this problem is solved, every obstacle that stands in the way of Indian progress will be removed, and the cause of the good government of the country will be furthered in a manner that will be pleasing and beneficial to the rulers and the ruled alike. In our opinion, notwithstanding differences of religion, habit and custom, a complete *rapprochement* between Hindus and Muhammadans is not impossible, if the leaders of both communities keep the object constantly before them and make every endeavour towards its realisation. Mere lip sympathy of the one with the other, however, will not do. There must be a genuine, living movement to bring the two communities together, and since their political and other interests are in some cases, owing to divergences of local conditions, dissimilar, it follows that the spirit of compromise and conciliation should govern their relations wherever necessary. The Hindu must make a sacrifice for the Muhammadan, and the Muhammadan must make a sacrifice for the Hindu, if that will improve their mutual relations."

Relations between Hindus and  
Muhammadans.

HINDOO PATRIOT,  
2nd Sept. 1912.

1522. Referring to the proposals for establishing harmonious relations between Hindus and Muhammadans, the *Hindoo Patriot* writes:—"But now at last we discern a beam in darkness. In the last annual report of the All-

*Ibid.*

India Moslem League, there is evidence of a sincere desire on the part of the Muhammadan leaders to put an end to the present unreasoning jealousy and distrust which is so inimical to the interests of both the Hindu and Muhammadan communities. The League represents all that is enlightened and patriotic in the Muhammadan community, and if the League takes up the question in right earnest, we are sure that it will make some headway this time. It should be remembered that in the great majority of cases, the sacrifice of kine is persisted in, not so much for the sake of religion as to wound the religious susceptibilities



of the Hindus. Therefore, the bogey of 'Islam in danger' cannot be raised if cow-killing is put down by the headmen of the community. Let a committee be appointed at every town and every village, composed exclusively of the leading men of the local Muhammadan community. Let the committee issue an appeal to their co-religionists, pointing out that Islam does not require the sacrifice of kine for certain religious observances, and suggesting that the practice should cease out of deference to Hindu sentiment and in order to avoid a rupture between the two communities. We are confident that such an appeal will not be made in vain."

1523. "Religious fervour," urges the *Hindoo Patriot*, "induces many a follower of the Prophet to undertake a pilgrimage to holy Arabia during the Haj season, without

Pilgrims to Arabia.

having secured the wherewithal to pay his way back to India. The result is that at the close of every Haj season, hundreds of Indian Muslim pilgrims find themselves stranded at Jeddah, and this year the generosity of a private individual made it possible for eight hundred pilgrims to return to India. The thing has now grown to a public scandal, and Turkey has brought the matter to the notice of the British Ambassador in Constantinople and, through him, of the British Government. But, surely, in a matter like this, the remedy rests with the leaders of the Muhammadan community of India. What is needed is a fund for the relief of stranded Indian pilgrims, and the Government of Bombay has publicly appealed to all Muhammadan organizations to raise the necessary fund by public subscriptions. But the Muhammadan leaders have been so distracted by the decision of the Secretary of State vetoing the Moslim University project that we fear the matter is likely to be lost sight of. As has been suggested that the issue of return tickets will check the evil to a certain extent, but those who have any experience of the refined extortion practised by keepers of shrines at places of pilgrimage will understand how difficult it is for a pilgrim, however full his purse might have been when he arrived there, to avoid retracing his steps empty-handed."

HINDOO PATRIOT.  
2nd Mar. 1912.

J. S. WILSON,

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9, ELYSIUM Row,

*The 7th September 1912.*



The Illinois. The history of the state of Illinois is a story of the struggle for the supremacy of the Mississippi River. The river is the lifeblood of the state, and the control of it has been the object of the ambition of every nation that has sought to dominate the continent. The first European to explore the river was the Frenchman, La Salle, in 1682. He was followed by the English, the Spanish, and the Americans. Each nation sought to establish a colony on the river, and each nation fought to maintain its supremacy. The struggle was long and hard, and it was not until the American Revolution that the river was finally opened to all nations. Since that time, the river has been the scene of many battles, and it has been the source of many disputes. But it has also been the source of many great achievements, and it has been the center of many great civilizations. The river is the heart of the state, and it is the heart of the nation. It is the lifeblood of the state, and it is the lifeblood of the nation. It is the source of our strength, and it is the source of our glory. It is the heart of the state, and it is the heart of the nation. It is the lifeblood of the state, and it is the lifeblood of the nation. It is the source of our strength, and it is the source of our glory.